Fifty Years of Solidarity

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Historical Material : Miss. Maha Sallam

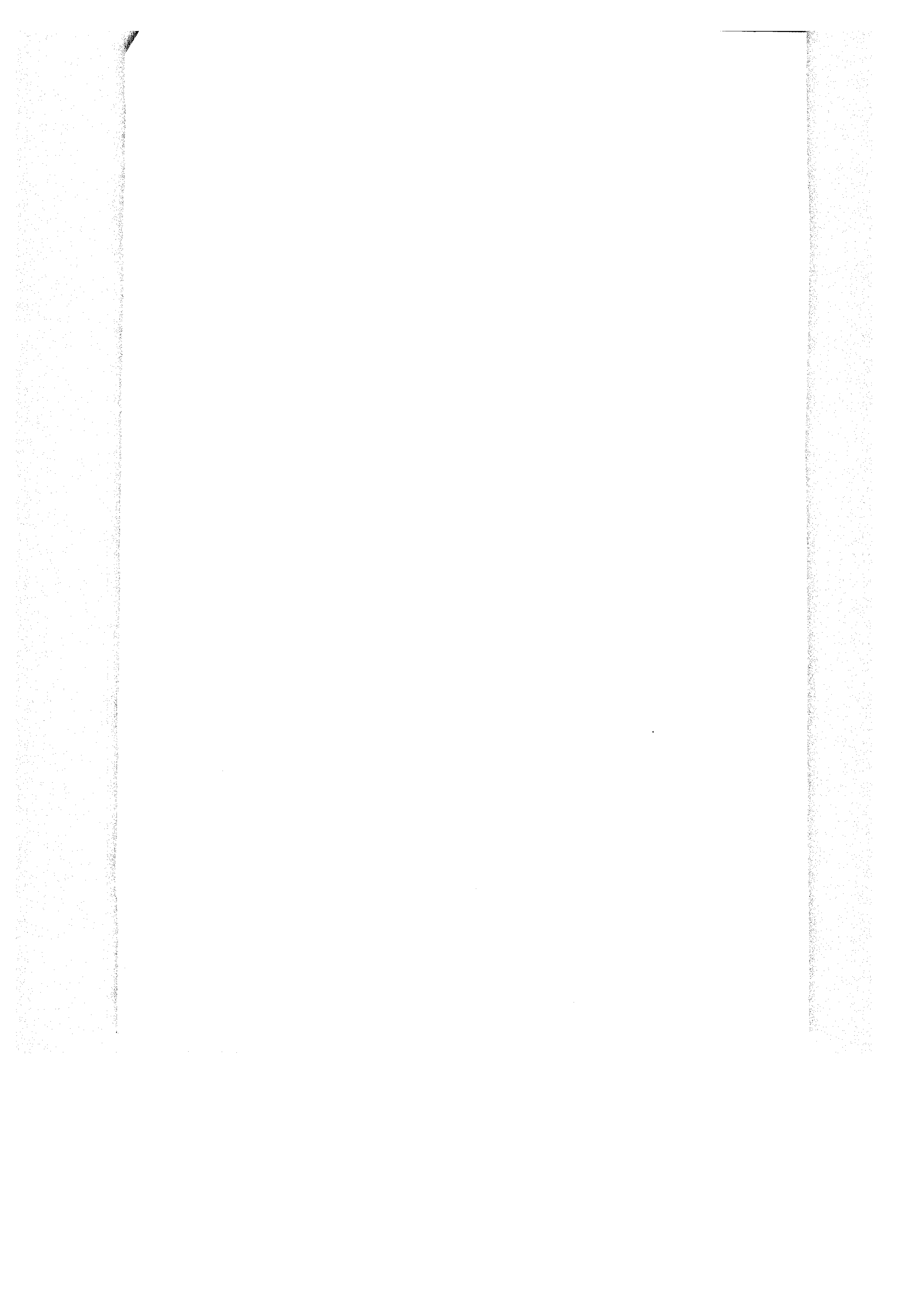
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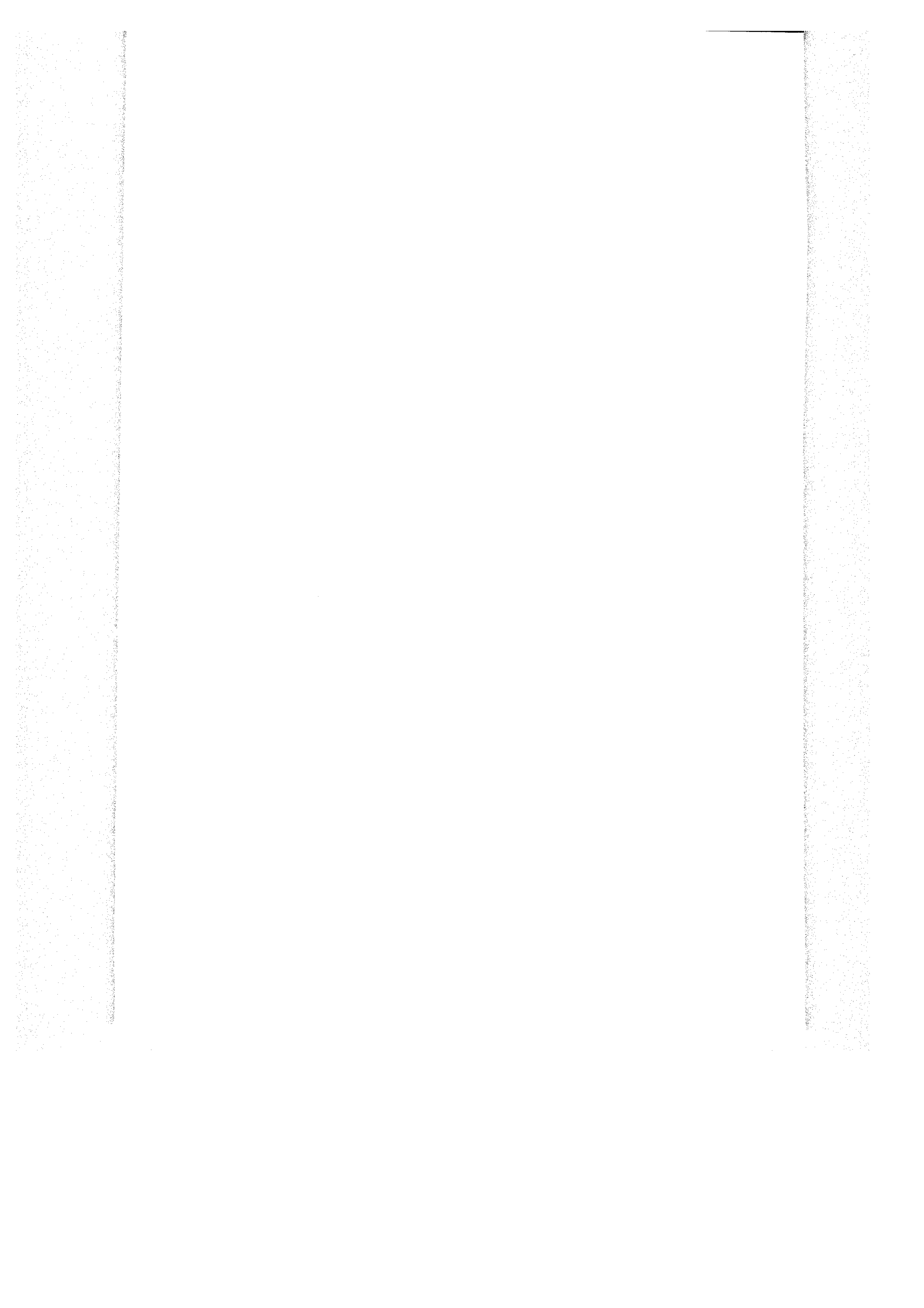
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Mr. Nouri Abdel Razzak*

Introduction**

This huge volume comprises critical historical documents on the rich struggle march of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement and Organization. This historic work required relentless efforts and time from the General Secretariat in an endeavor to stimulate the memory and inspire the new generations through the experience of the predecessors who changed the map of Asia, Africa, and Latin America; the principles of the luminous group of our movement, some of which sacrificed their life to help realize the movement's goals; others were tortured and imprisoned. We owe them for their giving and self-denial, and the responsibility they entrusted us with.

We have to commemorate their memory and bow in veneration of these figures and the struggling value they left behind. We are disheartened, while commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization, for the demise of the President, the outstanding international figure, Dr. Morad Ghaleb, who passed away amidst the preparations for the golden jubilee. His memory and that of the late presidents, martyr Youssef Al-Sebai'e and Abdel Rahman Al-Sherkawi, shall always remain a living example for us and the coming generations. We are grieved by the absence of Dr. Ghaleb from this ceremony to witness the outcome of his leadership that

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lasted for two decades.

This prelude is not meant to demonstrate the history of our movement and organization. The abovementioned volume presents, according to our discretion, the documented history of half a century of giving, struggle and leadership.

What counts today is the diagnosis of the recent developments in the regional and international situation, and the attempt to thrust into the different paths and new visions. The memory of the past has to help us progress towards the future.

AAPSO is fully aware that it lives in a world different from the one that witnessed its birth. It is conscious that many of the goals and slogans that stemmed thereof are outmoded, and it has become hard, if not impossible, to function according to the old methods that prevailed in the past decades.

The present world is sophisticated, viable, fast, dynamic, multi-faceted, ever-changing, substantially governed by capital, giant corporations, and "intercontinental companies"; with a globalized system that has full hegemony over our planet and proposes a package of concepts and objectives that have to be understood and assimilated.

The world witnesses a great revolution in communications and visual and printed media. Any event is transmitted in seconds to the whole world. The gigantic media forces currently control the minds of billions and billions of people.

The governing forces in the case of capital are similar to those that control media, the communications revolution, and thereupon, minds.

It is perceived that the economic forces that govern the world had been coupled with control on the way of thinking, as a result of the satellites, computer, the internet, and all communications' mechanisms and dynamics. Hence, the challenge before the world, in general, and the South, in particular, had become enormous and extremely grave. The Great 7 currently control 80%

of the world production as well as the international media industry.

These developments, mainly the outcome of the creative development of scientific and technological revolution, posed a serious historical option before the South countries: they either pave their way in this world or satisfy themselves with the margin of history, unable to contribute in a manner that shall enhance their position on the world map.

This is associated with the frailty and marginalization of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the twin movement of AAPSO. It is the movement that emanated from and was influenced by Bandung principles. Recently, NAM has painstakingly sought to rejuvenate its activities and promote its global role. However, these efforts have not borne till present.

The collapse of the socialist camp and the termination of the bipolar system had shaken the international relations and the prevalent concepts. The resultant recommendations, namely the hegemony of one pole "the USA", are on the decline. Though the USA acquires colossal economic and military power; adopts a policy of snobbery, hegemony and aggression; uses its armies to occupy other countries, as was the case in Afghanistan and Iraq; disdains the United Nations and the existing international organizations; and seeks to change the prevailing international concepts and principles to serve the one pole system, it failed to fully realize its goals and policies.

The arrogance of power, and the policy of hegemony, as well as the modes of implantation, had led to the weakness and disability of this power. War against terror that the US Administration declared after the 9/11 events did not result in the decline and liquidation of terrorism, but rather led to the escalation of terrorism in the international arena. Terrorism turned into a global phenomenon that wreaks havoc everywhere, even in the heart of capitalism. It is a hazardous and devastating phenomenon that grew in the womb of capitalist countries through

the attempts of these countries to contain and subjugate this phenomenon against the Soviet Union and the world leftist forces, especially during the Afghan war. On the contrary, counter to Islamic extremism, terrorist organizations, such as Al-Qaeda and the like, the Evangelical Christian Fundamentalism, especially in the USA, was founded; the incumbent US Administration stemmed from it.

An aspect of the current situation may be the confrontation between the Islamic Fundamentalism and the Evangelical Christian Fundamentalism. As a result, the world witnesses new phenomena and challenges, the religious ancestral approach, the revival of the ethnic and sectarian trends, and the historical conflict between the fundamentalist religious thought and the enlightened liberal thought.

These represent some of the concerns that preoccupy the minds of our peoples, in general, and the youth, in particular. We seek to progress after half a century of AAPSO's foundation. We have to assimilate, analyze and pass sound decisions (whenever possible) as regards these new phenomena.

The Movement was established through the people's support in both continents. However, it has to rely more on the people's forces, civil society organizations and social forums, as dependence on the grassroots is the basis of challenge and change.

The South-South cooperation and alliance be it between countries or peoples, between people's authorities, parties and forces, constitute a key component in our future march. One of our key functions is to rally the rift and end the disunity within the people's forces and organizations in the South.

We still condemn the flagrant violations of human rights; support and empower women to attain their rights.

We still conduct active campaigns in solidarity with the Palestinian people against the Israeli occupation and genocide

policy. We still support the struggle of the Iraqis against occupation and the reactionary forces that fanned the flame of sectarianism and escalated the human liquidation against great multitudes of Iraqis. We still back the Afghani people to realize their rights to freedom, democracy and independence.

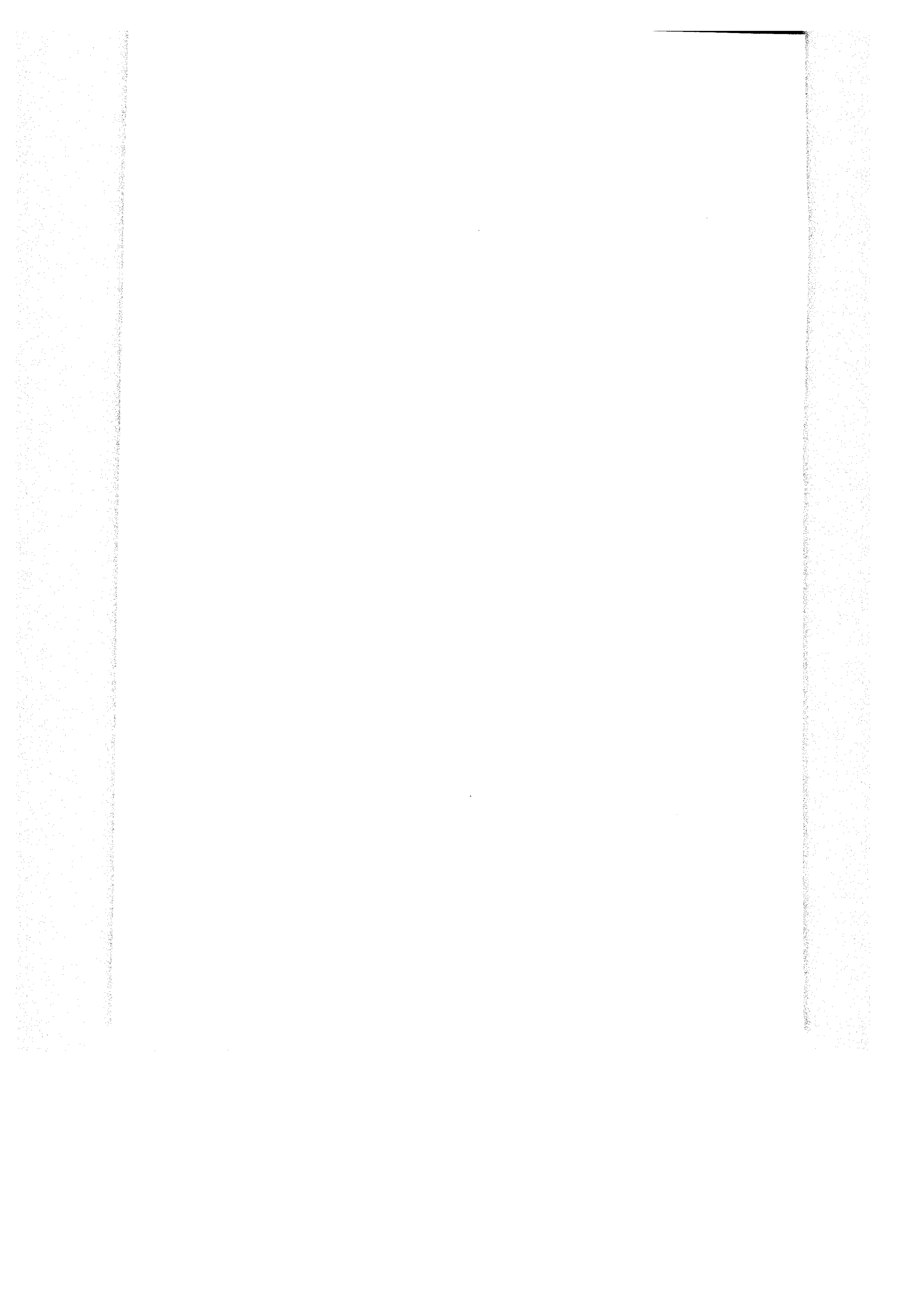
We stand behind the struggle of the African peoples to settle their problems in line with the interests of their peoples in Darfur, Chad, Somalia and Kenya. We persistently pursue our efforts to enhance peace, and bolster disarmament against nuclear proliferation policy in order to eliminate the weapons of mass destruction.

We aspire that this volume will be issued before the conference is convened: "AAPSO in a globalized International World" Homage to Dr. Morad Ghaleb.

The Conference shall lay the foundation for the Organization in its new framework, taking into account the current situation worldwide and benefiting from the heritage and experiences of the past.

The Organization, after half a century of foundation, had undergone hard and intricate conditions; paramount among which is the change in priorities, social and political conditions in our countries, countries of the South. Our countries need, more than any other time, to modernize the idea of solidarity, cooperation and partnership, which shall render the Organization the podium all-embracing to the different forces within our movement and organizations.

We aspire that the Conference shall contribute to strengthen our movement and lay the foundation for the expansion of our people's base.



Miss. Maha Sallam*

Preamble
Afro-Asian Movement
Historical Background

The first indications that the Afro-Asian Movement had achieved conscious political form became apparent only in the late 1940s. The movement reached its high point with the first Asian-African Conference, hold at Bandung in Indonesia in 1955. The antecedents of the movements, however, go back far beyond the first official expressions of an Afro-Asian Solidarity in the late 1940s. They are found in the first stirrings of national sentiment among Asians and Africans at the turn of the century and in the ideals of Pan-Asianism, Pan-Africanism and Pan-Arabism which these sentiments produced.

The advent of World War II made a revolutionary impact on colonialism. A debacle immediately visible to the Peoples of Asia and Africa was the occupation by Germany to three major colonial powers; France, Belgium and Holland and the progressive weakening of Great Britain, The fourth and major colonial power, in a protracted and costly war. The embroilment of African and Asian troops in the white man's war. The shattering effect which the Japanese victories had on Asian nationalism additionally contributed to a far-reaching metamorphosis in the attitudes of colonizers and those under colonial rule alike which led to the downfall of the colonial empires in the aftermath of the war.

The general situation in the post-war years was one of acute

* Development Section.

and worsening poverty. An urgent need for raw materials in Europe had led to an emphasis on cash crops in Africa which diverted attention from subsistence farming with a resultant lack of local foodstuffs. Shortages of imports also led to a spiraling of prices. It was in these circumstances that the Afro-Asian nationalist leaders increased their pressure on the colonial powers: in French Africa with demands for full equality with Metropolitan France and in British Africa with demands for self-government.

These political demands made by the Africans found full expressions in the Pan-African congress held immediately after the end of the war, in October 1945, in Manchester. The Manchester congress was notable for a number of reasons. For the first time the African element and West Indian, dominated the proceedings, represented by Jomo Kenyatta, Kwame Nkrumah, Wallace Johnson and Peter Abrahams. For the first time a Pan-African congress demanded outright independence for Africa and threatened the use of force if independence was denied them, and, again for the first time, an African political movement voiced its solidarity with independence movements in Asia. The congress expressed the hope that the peoples of Asia and Africa would have broken their countries-old chains of colonialism. Then, as free nations, they would stand united to consolidate and safeguard their liberties and independence from the restoration of Western imperialism.

The Manchester congress was thus a turning-point in the history of the African nationalist political movement. In Asia also the war marked the end of the old era and the beginning of the new.

In the afternoon of March 23, 1947, some 250 delegates coming from twenty-nine countries and territories of Asia gathered together in New Delhi for the inaugural session of the first Asian relations conference. Although the organizers had sought to

prevent controversial political issues from being raised, the conference was soon dominated by three themes: decolonization, the problems arising out of the sub-development of Asia, and the need for Asian solidarity.

The second inter-Asian conference had been scheduled to take place in China in 1949. But those two years had seen momentous changes over the face of Asia. The independence states of India and Pakistan had been suffered from the shambles of Hindu-Muslim conflicts. The effects of the victory of people's revolution in China were already being felt in Indochina, Burma, Malaya and the Philippines where communist uprisings threatened the existing regimes. The confrontation between Indonesian and Dutch forces was reaching a critical stage. On December 19, 1948, the Dutch forces launched an offensive against the Indonesian nationalists, many of whose leaders were arrested and jailed. A Security Council ruling demanding the release of the leaders and a cessation of hostilities was ignored by Dutch. Neither the U.N. nor any action to curb the Dutch activities. Against this background Burmese premier U.N. proposed to Nehru the convening of a conference of independent Asian countries to discuss the Indonesian problem. Nehru agreed and on January 20, 1949, the representatives of the governments of Afghanistan, Australian, Burma, Ceylon, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia and Yemen convened in New Delhi.

The conference recommends to the participating governments whether member states of the United Nations or not: 1) that keep in touch with one another through normal diplomatic channels; 2) they should instruct their representatives at the Headquarters of the United Nations and their diplomatic representatives, to consult among themselves.

The conference expresses the opinion that participating governments should consult among themselves in order to

explore ways and means of establishing suitable machinery for promoting consultation and cooperation within the framework of the United Nations.

These resolutions supplied the legitimization for the informal gatherings of Asian representatives which had already been taking place at the United Nations. A formal frame of reference was set for the establishment of the Asian and Arabo-Asian group as it came to be known at the U.N. and, with the inclusion of Egypt and Ethiopia, the nucleus was created for the burgeoning of this body into the Afro-Asian group.

There had existed a great deal of unofficial cooperation between Arab and Asian delegations at the U.N from the very first meeting of the General Assembly. After the second New Delhi Conference, however, the cooperation between the U.N representatives of the countries which participated at the Conference progressively increased, and by the end of 1950 they were formally known and recognized as a separate group.

The first formal meetings in 1950 of Arabo-Asian were attended by twelve Arab and Asian members out of the twenty countries from the African and Asian continents which were at that time represented at the U.N; those attending were Afghanistan, Burma, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen. Thailand and the Philippines joined at later stage, and in 1953 Liberia and Ethiopia joined the group, transforming it from Arab-Asian into Afro-Asian group.

The number of the group gradually increased as new members joined and additional countries of Asia and Africa were admitted to the U.N. By 1956 the group had swelled to twenty-eight and had become the largest single regional bloc, able to prevent any proposal from obtaining a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly.

Despite its size, the power of the Afro-Asian group in the U.N. remained largely fictional from the outset, the consensus of

opinion in the group was limited largely to questions which had little reference to cold-war issues. Thus, on matters of human rights, socialism, the economic development of underdeveloped countries, and, to a lesser extent, on colonialism, the group was able to act in a coordinated fashion. In regard to the majority of problems brought before the U.N, however, the group was faced with wide divergences, as its members voted in accordance with the specific interests of their particular foreign policy requirements, without reference to any Afro-Asian consensus.

The questions of territories in North Africa, and in particular that of French rule in Tunisia provided one of the main subjects for attention of the Afro-Asian group in the pre-Bandung period. The subject was brought before the U.N. General Assembly at its seventh session, in 1952, after exhaustive preparatory work had been carried out by the Arab delegations in the preceding session thirteen delegations representing Arab and Asian countries sought to convoke a special session of the Assembly to debate the situation in Tunisia; they succeeded, however, in introducing a motion in the ordinary session which called inter-alia, for the establishment of a three-member commission to examine the entire question. This motion was heavily defeated, notably among those who refused to support it were the delegates of Ethiopia and Liberia.

Disappointed by the results at the General Assembly, the Arab and Asian delegates assembled at the behest of the Arab League in Cairo in December 1952 to discuss further moves on North Africa. The delegates decided to send a strong protest to France and to arrange a full-dress Arabo-Asian conference to discuss the North Africa situation. In the words of the final communiqué published on December 4 "the member states agreed to view this conference, which is of historic importance, as a preparatory meeting to another conference, at which the heads of the government of the bloc will participate and which will be called

together to discuss the steps that should be taken over North Africa if French policy remain obstinate. Asian delegates met again in Cairo with the political committee of the Arab League in August 1953, at the request of the Indonesian delegate, but decided to await the outcome of the eighth session of the U.N. General Assembly before taking further action. However, the efforts of the Arabo-Asian group achieve no better than they had done the previous year: even the proposal they submitted this time did not obtain a majority of votes.

In a sense, the 1953, discussion in Cairo marked the heyday of Arabo-Asian relations within the Afro-Asian group. Some of the more Western-oriented countries were reluctant to enter into an open fight with France over North Africa. This reluctant even spread to the more moderate of the Arab countries, and in particular to French-oriented Lebanon. An Arab effort to raise the question of Algeria in the U.N. Security Council received no support what so ever from the non-Arab Afro-Asians.

The North African effort faced failure. The changes which were eventually wrought in the relations between France and her North African territories had nothing to do with the effort of the Arabo-Asians at the U.N. The Arabs drew further apart, disillusioned by the weakness of the Afro-Asians persistent reports of differences between the Arab League and the Afro-Asian group at the U.N. brought an official denial from the League's Secretary – General Abd Al-Khaliq Hassuna who rejected the assertion that the group was on the verge of falling apart. Although the denial was justified, for the Afro-Asian delegates continued to meet regularly, the group had in effect, become moribund. It had its brief spell of glory during the Korean affair, due mainly to India's prestige and because the two world blocs had reached a political stalemate over Korea, but it had not since succeeded in making its mark in regard to any of the major problems it had tackled. It was only in the year of the Bandung Conference, and with the influx of

additional members into the U.N., that new life was injected into the Afro-Asian group.

Another confrontation with colonialist power was reaching its climax. The French in Indochina were being increasingly hard pressed by the Vietninh, and the possibility of U.S intervention was causing disquiet not only in Indonesia, but notably in India, Burma, and, to a lesser extent, Ceylon. In January 1954 the Indonesians made a discreet proposal for holding a conference of the heads of government of Egypt, Pakistan, India, Burma, Ceylon and Indonesia to discuss the situation in Indochina and North Africa. Two months later, the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Indonesian Parliament, citing the urgency of the Indochina situation, called for a full-scale Afro-Asian conference.

In the event, however, it was not the insistent Indonesian attempts but the initiative taken by the prime minister of Ceylon which brought about a conference of Asian leaders. The overriding thoughts of Ceylon Prime Minister Sir John Kote Lawala as he sent the invitations were, in his own words, to do something to stop possible war over Indochina, and to make the voice of Asia heard.

Between April 28 and May 2, 1954, the Prime Ministers of Burma, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Ceylon met at Colombo.

The Colombo meeting, however, took place concurrently with the Geneva Conference which aimed at a solution of the Indo-china question.

The five Asian Premiers, being directly concerned with this question have, therefore, proposed that France should declare at the Geneva Conference that she was irrevocably committed to the complete independence of Indo-China. They suggested direct negotiations between the parties concerned, utilising the good offices of the United Nations, and hoped that the Geneva Conference would bring about a speedy termination of the dispute.

The five Premiers' agreement on this issue was a clear indication that it would extend to other fields. They declared their condemnation of colonialism as a violation of the fundamental human rights, and voiced their support to the independence of Tunisia and Morocco. They also expressed their sympathy for the Palestine Arab Refugees and their desire for a just and early settlement of the Palestine problem.

Furthermore, the five Prime Ministers affirmed their faith in democracy, and called upon the nations of the world to respect each other's sovereignty and to refrain from interfering in each other's internal problems. They deplored the production of the Atomic Bomb and other arms of mass destruction. They considered the representation of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and looked into the question of economic cooperation and mutual aid, referring some of their proposals to their respective governments.

The five Prime Ministers also expressed their satisfaction with the Colombo Conference as paving the way for the convocation of similar meetings in the future.

They finally discussed the desirability of holding a conference of Asian-African nations, and requested Premier Ali Sastroamidjojo of Indonesia, who had brought forward this suggestion, to explore the possibility of such a conference.

The proposal of the Indonesian Prime Minister briefly envisaged the convocation of a conference in September or October, l954, comprising the Asian-African Group which collaborates in the United Nations, in addition to Jordan and Ceylon, which had not yet been admitted in the United Nations.

The second meeting of the Colombo powers was held at Bogor, at President Sukarno's summer palace in Jakarta on December 28, 1954. The main problem was to be discussed about invities.

At the end of their meeting, the five conferees issued a joint Communiqué in which they outlined the main purposes and

principles of the Asian-African Conference.

The communiqué included the following points:

I. Purposes of the Conference.

a) To promote goodwill and Cooperation between the nations of Asia and Africa, to explore and advance their mutual as well as their common interests and to establish and further friendliness and neighbourly relations;

b) To consider social, economic and cultural problems and relations of the countries represented, to encourage the exchange of information concerning natural and other resources in these countries and to participate in a committee of experts to work in this field;

c) To consider problems of special interest to Asian and African peoples, e.g. problems affecting national sovereignty and of racialism and colonialism;

d) To view the position of Asia and Africa and their peoples in the world of to-day and the Contribution they can make to the promotion of world peace and Co-operation.

II. It was agreed that the Conference should have a broad basis and geographical distribution, and that all countries in Asia and Africa, which have got independence, should be invited. With minor variations and modifications of this basic principle, they decided to invite the following countries: -

1. Afghanistan
2. Cambodia
3. Central African Federation
4. China
5. Egypt
6. Ethiopia
7. Gold Coast
8. Iran
13. Lebanon
14. Liberia
15. Libya
16. Nepal
17. Philippines
18. Saudi Arabia
19. Sudan
20. Syria
21. Thailand

9. Iraq
10. Japan
11. Jordan
12. Laos
22. Turkey
23. Viet-Nam (North)
24. Viet-Nam (South).
25. Yemen

III. The Prime Ministers decided that acceptance of the invitation by anyone country would in no way involve or even imply any change in its view of the status of any other country. It implied only that the country invited was in general agreement with the purposes of the Conference. They had also borne in mind the principle that the form of government the way of life of any one country should in no way be subject to interference by another.

IV. It was specifically set down that the basic purpose of the Conference was that the countries concerned should become better acquainted with one another's views. Any view expressed at the Conference by one or more participating country would not be binding on or be regarded as accepted by any other, unless the latter so declared.

V. The Prime Ministers declared that in seeking to convene an Asian-African Conference, they were not actuated by any desire for exclusiveness in respect of the membership of the Conference. It was not their aim, either, that the participating countries should build themselves into a regional bloc.

VI. The communiqué also expressed the five Prime Ministers support of the demand of the peoples of Tunisia and Morocco for independence and their legitimate right to self-determination.

It also expressed the Prime Ministers' grave concern in respect of the various African questions, colonialism, racial discrimination, the nuclear and thermonuclear weapons, as well as their appeal for the maintenance of World Peace.

The final preparations for the Asian-African conference were

left to a small international secretariat. The site chosen for it was the town of Bandung.

The Asian- African Conference, convened upon the invitation of the Prime Ministers of Burma, Ceylon, India, Indonesia and Pakistan met in Bandung from 18th to 24th April, 1955. In addition to the sponsoring countries the following 24 countries participated in the Conference: -

I. Afghanistan
2. Cambodia
3. People's Republic of China
4. Egypt
5. Ethiopia
6. Gold Coast
7. Iran
8. Iraq
9. Japan
10. Jordan
11. Laos
12. Lebanon
13. Liberia
14. Libya
15. Nepal
16. Philippines
17. Saudi Arabia
18. Sudan
19. Syria
20. Thailand
21. Turkey
22. Democratic Republic of Vietnam
23. State of Vietnam
24.Yemen.

The Asian-African Conference considered problems of common interest and Concern to countries of Asia and Africa and discussed ways and means by which their people could achieve fuller economic, cultural and political cooperation.

Conference Resolutions

Following is the official communiqué on the Asian-African conference:

A- Economic Cooperation.

1- The Asian-African Conference recognised the urgency of promoting economic development in the Asian-African region.

There was a general desire for economic cooperation among the participating countries on the basis of mutual interest and respect for national sovereignty. The proposals with regard to economic cooperation within the participating countries do not preclude either the desirability or the need for cooperation with countries outside the region, including the investment of foreign capital. It was further recognised that the assistance being received by certain participating countries from outside the region, through international or under bilateral arrangements, had made a valuable contribution to the implementation of their development programmes.

2- The participating countries agreed to provide technical assistance to one another, to the maximum extent practicable, in the form of: experts, trainees, pilot projects and equipment for demonstration purposes; in exchange of know-how and establishment of national, and where possible, regional training and research institutes for imparting technical knowledge and skill in cooperation with the existing international agencies.

3- The Asian-African Conference recommended: The early establishment of the Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development; the allocation by the International Bank for

Reconstruction and Development of a greater part of its resources to Asian-African countries; the early establishment of the International Finance Corporation which should include in its activities the undertaking of equity investment; and encouragement to the promotion of joint ventures among Asian-African countries in so far as this will promote their common interest.

4- The Asian-African Conference recognised the vital need for stabilizing commodity trade in the region. The principle of enlarging the scope of multilateral trade and payments was accepted. However, it was recognised that some countries would have to take recourse to bilateral trade arrangements in view of their prevailing economic conditions.

5- The Asian-African Conference recommended that collective action be taken by participating countries for stabilizing the international prices of and demand for primary commodities through bilateral and multilateral arrangements, and that as far as practicable and desirable, they should adopt a unified approach on the subject in the United Nations Permanent Advisory Commission on International Commodity Trade and other international forums.

6- The Asian-African Conference further recommended that: Asian-African countries should diversify their export trade by processing their raw material, wherever economically feasible, before export; intraregional trade fairs should be promoted and encouragement given to the exchange of trade delegations and groups of businessmen; exchange of information and of samples should be encouraged with a view to promoting intra-regional trade; and normal facilities should be provided for transit trade of land-locked countries.

7- The Asian-African Conference attached considerable importance to shipping and expressed concern that shipping lines reviewed from time to time their freight rates, often to the

detriment of participating countries. It recommended a study of the problem, and collective action thereafter, to induce the shipping lines to adopt a more reasonable attitude. It was suggested that a study of railway freight of transit trade may be made.

8- The Asian-African Conference agreed that encouragement should be given to the establishment of national and regional banks and insurance companies.

9- The Asian-African Conference felt that exchange of information on matters relating to oil, such as remittance of profits and taxation, might eventually lead to the formulation of common policies.

10- The Asian-African Conference emphasized the particular significance of the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, for the Asian-African countries. The Conference welcomed the initiative of the Powers principally concerned in offering to make available information regarding the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes; urged the speedy establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency which should provide for adequate representation of the Asian-African countries on the executive authority of the Agency; and recommended to the Asian and African Governments to take full advantage of the training and other facilities in the peaceful uses of atomic energy offered by the countries sponsoring such programmes.

11- The Asian-African Conference agreed to the appointment of Liaison Officers in participating countries, to be nominated by their respective national Governments, for the exchange of information and ideas on matters of mutual interest. It recommended that fuller use should be made of the existing international organisations and participating countries who were not members of such international organisations, but were eligible, should secure membership.

12- The Asian-African Conference recommended that there should be prior consultation of participating countries in

international forums with a view, as far as possible, to furthering their mutual economic interest. It is, however, not intended to form a regional bloc.

B. Cultural Cooperation.

I- The Asian-African Conference was convinced that among the most powerful means of promoting understanding among nations is the development of cultural cooperation. Asia and Africa have been the cradle of great religions and civilisations which enriched other cultures and civilisation while themselves being enriched in the process. Thus the cultures of Asia and Africa are based on spiritual and universal foundations. Unfortunately, contacts among Asian and African countries were interrupted during the past centuries. The peoples of Asia and African are now animated by a keen and sincere desire to renew their old cultural contacts and develop new ones in the context of the modern world. All participating governments at the Conference reiterated their determination to work for closer cultural cooperation.

2- The Asian-African Conference took note of the fact that the existence of colonialism in many parts of Asia and Africa in whatever form it may be, not only prevents cultural cooperation but also suppresses the national cultures of the peoples. Some colonial powers have denied to their dependent peoples basic rights in the sphere of education and culture, which hampers the development of their personality and also prevents cultural intercourse with other Asian and African peoples. This is particularly true in the case of Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco, where the basic right of the people to study their own language and culture has been suppressed. Similar discrimination has been practised against African and coloured people in some parts of the Continent of Africa. The Conference felt that these policies amount to a denial of the fundamental rights of man, impede cultural advancement in this region and also hamper cultural

cooperation on the wider international plan. The Conference condemned such a denial of fundamental rights in the sphere of education and culture in some parts of Asia and Africa by this and other forms of cultural suppression.

In particular, the Conference condemned racialism as a means of cultural suppression.

3- It was not from any sense of exclusiveness or rivalry with other groups of nations and other civilisations and cultures that the Conference viewed the development of cultural cooperation among Asian and African countries. True to the age-old tradition of tolerance and universality, the Conference believed that Asian and African cultural cooperation should be developed in the larger context of world cooperation.

Side by side with the development of Asian-African cultural cooperation the countries of Asia and Africa desire to develop cultural contacts with others. This would enrich their own culture and would also help in the promotion of world peace and understanding.

4- There are many Countries in Asia and Africa which have not yet been able to develop their educational, scientific and technical institutions. The Conference recommended that countries in Asia and Africa which are more fortunately placed in this respect should give facilities for the admission of students and trainees from such countries to their institutions. Such facilities should also be made available to the Asian and African people in Africa to whom Opportunities for acquiring higher education are at present denied.

5- The Asian-Mrican Conference felt that the promotion of cultural cooperation among countries of Asia and Africa should be directed towards: -

I - the acquisition of knowledge of each others country;
II - mutual cultural exchange, and
III - exchange of information.

6- The Asian-African Conference was of opinion that at this stage the best results in cultural cooperation would be achieved by pursuing bilateral arrangements to implement its recommendations and by each country taking action on its own, wherever possible and feasible.

C. Human Rights And Self Determination.

I- The Asian-African Conference declared its full support of the fundamental principles of Human Rights as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and took note of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations.

The Conference declared its full support of the principle of self-determination of peoples and nations as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and took note of the United Nations resolutions on the rights of peoples and nations to self-determination, which is a prerequisite of the full enjoyment of all fundamental Human Rights.

2- The Asian-African Conference deplored the policies and practices of racial segregation and discrimination which form the basis of government and human relations in large regions of Africa and in other parts of the world. Such conduct is not only a gross violation of human rights, but also a denial of the fundamental values of civilisation and the dignity of man.

The Conference extended its warm sympathy and support for the courageous stand taken by the victims of racial discrimination, especially by the peoples of African, Indian and Pakistani origin is South Africa; applauded all those who sustain their cause; re-affirmed the determination of Asian-African peoples to eradicate every trace of racialism that might exist in their own countries; and pledged to use its full moral influence to guard against the danger of falling victims to the same evil in their struggle to eradicate it.

D. Problems Of Dependent Peoples.

I- The Asian-African Conference discussed the problems of dependent peoples and colonialism and the evils arising from the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation.

The Conference is agreed:-

(a) in declaring that colonialism in all its manifestations is an evil which should speedily be brought to an end;

(b) in affirming that the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights, is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and is, an impediment to the promotion of world peace and cooperation;

(c) in declaring its support of the cause of freedom and independence for all such peoples, and

(d) in calling upon the powers Concerned to grant freedom and independence to such peoples.

2- In view of the unsettled situation in North Africa and of the persisting denial to the peoples of North Africa of their right to self-determination, the Asian-African Conference declared its support of the rights of the people of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia to self-determination and independence and urged the French Government to bring about a peaceful settlement of the issue without delay.

E. Other Problems.

1- In view of the existing tension in the Middle East, caused by the situation in Palestine and of the danger of that tension to world peace, the Asian-African Conference declares its support of the rights of the Arab people of Palestine and calls for the implementation of the United Nations Resolutions on Palestine and the achievement of the peaceful settlement of the Palestine question.

2- The Asian-African Conference, in the context of its expressed attitude on the abolition of colonialism, supported the position of Indonesia in the case of West Irian based on the relevant agreements between Indonesia and the Netherlands.

The Asian-African Conference urged the Netherlands Government to reopen negotiations as soon as possible, to implement their obligations under the above-mentioned agreements and expressed the earnest hope that the United Nations would assist the parties concerned in finding a peaceful solution to the dispute.

3- The Asian-African Conference supported the position of Yemen in the case of Aden and the Southern parts of Yemen known as the Protectorates and urged the parties Concerned to arrive at a peaceful settlement of the dispute.

F. Promotion Of World Peace And Cooperation.

I- The Asian-African Conference, taking note of the fact that several States have still not been admitted to the United Nations, considered that for effective cooperation for world peace, membership in the United Nations should be universal; called on the Security Council to support the admission of all those States which are qualified for membership in terms of the Charter. In the opinion of the Asian-African Conference, the following among participating countries, viz: Cambodia, Ceylon, Japan, Jordan, Libya, Nepal, a unified Vietnam Were so qualified.

The Conference considered that the representation of the countries of the Asian-African region on the Security Council, in relation to the principle of equitable geographical distribution was inadequate. It expressed the view that as regards the distribution of the non-permanent seats, the Asian-African countries which; under the arrangement arrived at in London in 1946, are precluded from being elected, should be enabled to serve on the Security Council, so that they might make a more effective

Contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security.

2- The Asian-African Conference having considered the dangerous situation of international tension existing and the risks confronting the whole human race from the outbreak of global war in which the destructive power of all types of armaments, including nuclear and thermonuclear weapons, would be employed, invited the attention of all nations to the terrible consequences that would follow if such a war were to break out.

The Conference considered that disarmament and the prohibition of the production, experimentation and use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons of war are imperative to save mankind and civilisation from the fear and prospect of wholesale destruction. It considered that the nations of Asia and Africa assembled here have a duty towards humanity and civilisation to proclaim their support for disarmament and for the prohibition of these weapons and to appeal to nations principally concerned and to world opinion, to bring about such disarmament and prohibition.

The Conference considered that effective international control should be established and maintained to implement such disarmament and prohibition and that speedy and determined efforts should be made to this end.

Pending the total prohibition of the manufacture of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons, this Conference appealed to all the powers concerned to reach agreement to suspend experiments with such weapons.

The Conference declared that universal disarmament is an absolute necessity for the preservation of peace and requested the United Nations to continue its efforts and appealed to all concerned speedily to bring about the regulation, limitation, control and reduction of all armed forces and armaments, including the prohibition of the production, experimentation and use of all weapons of mass destruction, and to establish effective

international control to this end.

G. Declaration On The Promotion Of World Peace And Cooperation.

The Asian-African Conference gave anxious thought to the question of world peace and cooperation. It viewed with deep concern the present state of international tension with its danger of an atomic world war: The problem of peace is correlative with the problem of international security. In this connection, all States should cooperate, especially the United Nations, in bringing about the reduction of armaments and the elimination of nuclear weapons under effective international control. In this way, international peace can be promoted and nuclear energy may be used exclusively for peaceful purposes. This would help to answer the needs particularly of Asia and Africa, for what they urgently require are social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom. Freedom and peace are interdependent. The right of self-determination must be enjoyed by all peoples, and freedom and independence must be granted, with the least possible delay, to those who are still dependent peoples. Indeed, all nations should have the right freely to choose.

Glimpses from History

The Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO, housed in its headquarters in Cairo, organized and directed the new Afro-Asian activity. The Solidarity Movement gradually broadened to include a wide number activities on different levels. First was the Conference of Afro-Asian writers, which opened in Tashkent in October 1958; it was followed in December by the Conference of Afro-Asian chambers of commerce, in Cairo. Two months later, in February 1959, Cairo played an important role in the birth of the Afro-Asian Youth Movement, and in the same month the Council of AAPSO convened in the Egyptian capital. In the months and

years to follow new seminars and conferences on a mass of subjects were planned and implemented mainly by the Cairo AAPSO Secretariat. The first lawyers' Conference was held in Damascus before the Cairo conference and the following organized by the Secretarial, took place in Conakry, Guinea on October 15-20, 1962. A doctors' Conference was held in Cairo on October 24. 1964. Conferences were held on housing (Cairo, December 7, 1963) development (New Delhi, April 17, 1963), railways (Cairo, October 10, 1962), and insurance (Cairo, September 3, 1964). There were economic seminars – one not organized by the Secretariat, was held in Pyong Yang, North Korea, in June 1964, a second, under secretariat auspices, was held in Algiers in February 1965. The solidarity fund held in its first meeting in Conakry in February 1961, and had a number of subsequent sessions in the Gunean capital. Emergency meetings on the situation in Congo and special committees for aid to Algeria also convened. From the Cairo Solidarity Conference in December 1957 to the end of 1962 a total of twenty-three Afro-Asian conferences, seminars and special committees had been convened, and of these twelve, or more than half, took place in Cairo. Only one – the second Afro-Asian Conference for Economic cooperation – was held in New Delhi.

The two Conferences held in 1958 were of special interest, the writer's Conference, in Tashkent on October 7, 1958, was the only major Afro-Asian event to take place in the Soviet Union. The resolution of the conference called for the establishment of a permanent office of Afro-Asian Writers in Colombo. Egypt offered to play host to a second conference of Afro-Asian writers in Cairo in 1960 was accepted.

The second Conference of the Afro-Asian Chambers of Commerce held in Cairo on December 1958. The Conference had been the brainchild of the 1957 meeting of the Arab Chambers of Commerce in Beirut, but had been adopted by the AAPSO Cairo

Conference and incorporated in its resolutions. Delegates from thirty-nine countries attended the opening of the Conference. The two main items of the agenda were the European common market and its effect on the economies of the Afro-Asian countries, and the possibility of setting up an Afro-Asian common market.

The Egyptian bid to create a Permanent economic secretariat, parallel to the AAPSO secretariat in Cairo, was only partially successful. the second Conference of Afro-Asian Chambers of Commerce met in New Delhi on December 11, 1961, was opened by Prime Minister Nehru himself ; moreover, of the two hundred delegates attending, the Indians sent, in addition to their eleven-man official delegation, twenty-four representatives of the export developing council, fourteen representatives of Indian government ministers and sixty-six observers.

Despite the inauspicious beginning of this Afro-Asian economic get-together, a Permanent Organization was set up, which become known as the Afro-Asian Organization for Economic Cooperation (AFRASEC). An Egyptian, Muhammad Rif'at, was elected Secretary-General. The aim of the Organization was defined as to bring about an increase in the economic collaboration between national federations of chambers of commerce in member countries. Resolutions on the need for the exchange of Technical and financial aid, for greater trade cooperation, and for the need to industrialize in the face of the threat from the European common market, were passed.

The second meeting of AAPSO congress was held in Conakry from April 11-15, 1960. Delegations from forty-nine countries and territories attended the opening of the conference in the large "trading-factory" at the back of the party headquarters, which had been converted into a conference hall. Some five hundred people – delegates, observers, journalists and guests – crowded into the large store shed to hear President Sekou Toure deliver the opening speech. This was the first time an international

conference of such size, bringing so many people from outside the African continent, was held in an African country south of the Sahara. This was indeed the first time that the Africans began to assert themselves within the Afro-Asian Movement. Until the Conakry Conference they had played the junior partner, with the Asians and Arabs taking the initiative now. For the first time, the African voice began to be heared: Guinea, Mali, Ghana, Congo, the delegates from the non-independent territories under Portuguese and British colonial rule and other African delegations began to take an increasingly active interest.

The Conference warns the Afro-Asian peoples to be over vigilant against imperialist efforts to weaken this unity and thus continue or reimpose their domination through the formation of military pacts; the establishment of military bases on Afro-Asian soil; interference in the internal affairs of countries; neo-colonialist economic penetration and the creation of tensions between Afro-Asian countries through provocations and conspiracies.

The Conference calls for the further consolidation of the unity and solidarity of the Afro-Asian peoples in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

The Conference denounces before the whole world the crimes, the odious repression, the genocide of French, British, American and other imperialist powers which oppose by all means the national liberation of African and Asian peoples.

The Conference condemns the imperialists policy of division and calls upon all Afro-Asian Peoples to be vigilant in order to crush their treacherous maneuvers.

The Conference declares its regret that in spite of unanimous opposition of the All African Peoples conference held at Tunis and Accra, in spite of the UN recommendations, France has conducted nuclear explosions in the sanctions against France going from boycott to the breaching off diplomatic notations with her.

The Conference agreed on establishing an executive committee to direct the secretariat, while the secretariat itself was to remain in Cairo with Yusuf Al-Sibai as a Secretary – General.

The Conakry conference thus served to consolidate the Solidarity Movement and to widen its base, the speeches and resolutions served to underline the anti-imperialistic, and thus anti-western, nature of the movement, to which both communists and non-communist nationalists subscribed.

The first Afro-Asian Women's conference was held in Cairo in January 1961, in which 35 countries were represented.

The Conference, recognizing the vital contribution of women in the nations' struggle towards liberation and independence calls upon the Afro-Asian Women to unite in their struggle to achieve the goals set by this conference.

Afro-Asian Women should remember that on their full Cooperation, Solidarity and Integrity, lies the responsibility of liberating countries and peoples who are still under foreign domination and imperialism.

The AAPSO Executive Committee met for the first time on November 9, 1960, in Beirut, under the chairmanship of the Lebanese minister of education, Kamal Jumblat. This time the tone of the meeting was much sharper, the proposals more extremely anti-western, than at Conakry. Whereas at Conakry the British and the French, as classic colonialist powers, had been singled out for attack, the main target now became the US, which was accused of creating a new colonialism and of retarding the progress of the liberation movements. One of the decisions called for the creation of a special committee for financial assistance to Afro-Asian National liberation movements. Another saluted the Cuban struggle against the US, and, for the first time within the Solidarity Movement, a call was made to contact the popular movement in Latin America to form a United front against imperialism.

The tendency to increased militancy evident at Beirut became heightened at the AAPSO Council meeting which convened in Bandung on April 10, 1961. Delegates from fifty-three countries had been invited; of these, delegates from forty-four countries as well as a Palestine delegation attended the conference. In addition some twenty organization received observer status, including the World Peace Council, the Asian Pacific Peace liaison committee, the International Association of Democratic lawyers and, as a new-comer to an Afro-Asian Solidarity conference, the Cuban Institute friendship between peoples.

The meeting opened with a fiery speech by President Sukarno in which he warned that imperialism was appearing in a new form, namely that of neo-colonialism. The doctrine of neo-colonialism emerged to full light at the Bandung council meeting, and was, henceforth, to become the main target of attack of all subsequent Afro-Asian Solidarity Conferences. Typical of this hardening line at Bandung was the speech of the Egyptian Secretary – General of AAPSO, Yousf AL-Sibai, who lashed out against the United States, the United Nations and the west in general. "In its vicious attempts to dominate the Afro-Asian world, the neo-colonialists of the US are using the United Nations organization by means of the mechanical majority it possesses".

The Conference, though, however different from the original Bandung gathering, set the tone for the future activities of the Afro -Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization as follows:

a) The Council assigns the Permanent Secretariat to do its utmost that national solidarity movements be set up in the countries where such movements do not yet exist.

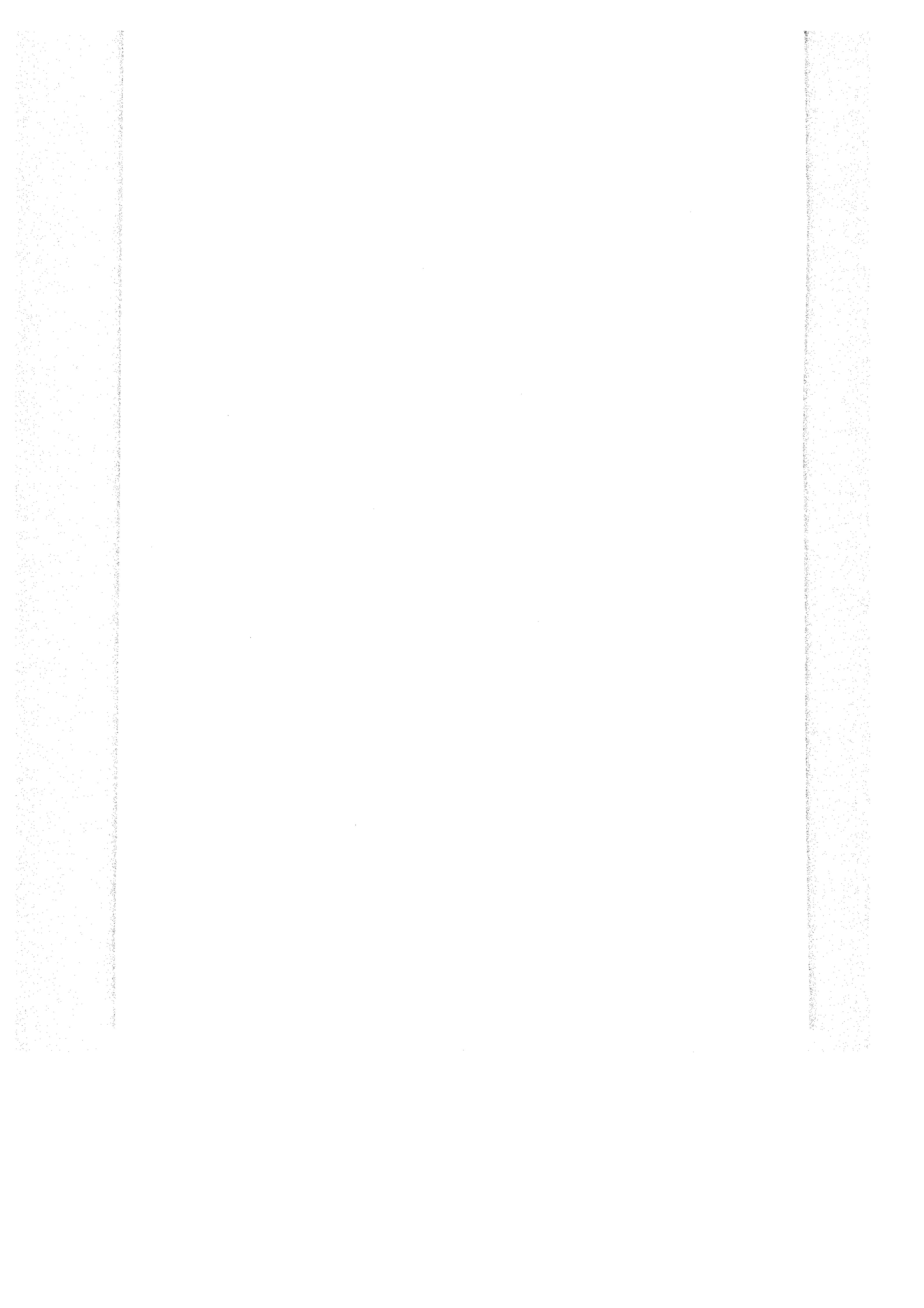
b) Demands the national solidarity movements to help to establish solidarity movements do not exist, by every means.

c) Urges the governments in Asian and African countries to extend concrete support to the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization.

d) Requests the governments of Asian and African countries to give asylum and all necessary help to all fighters for real and complete national independence, who are being prosecuted by the imperialists and the neo-colonialist regimes.

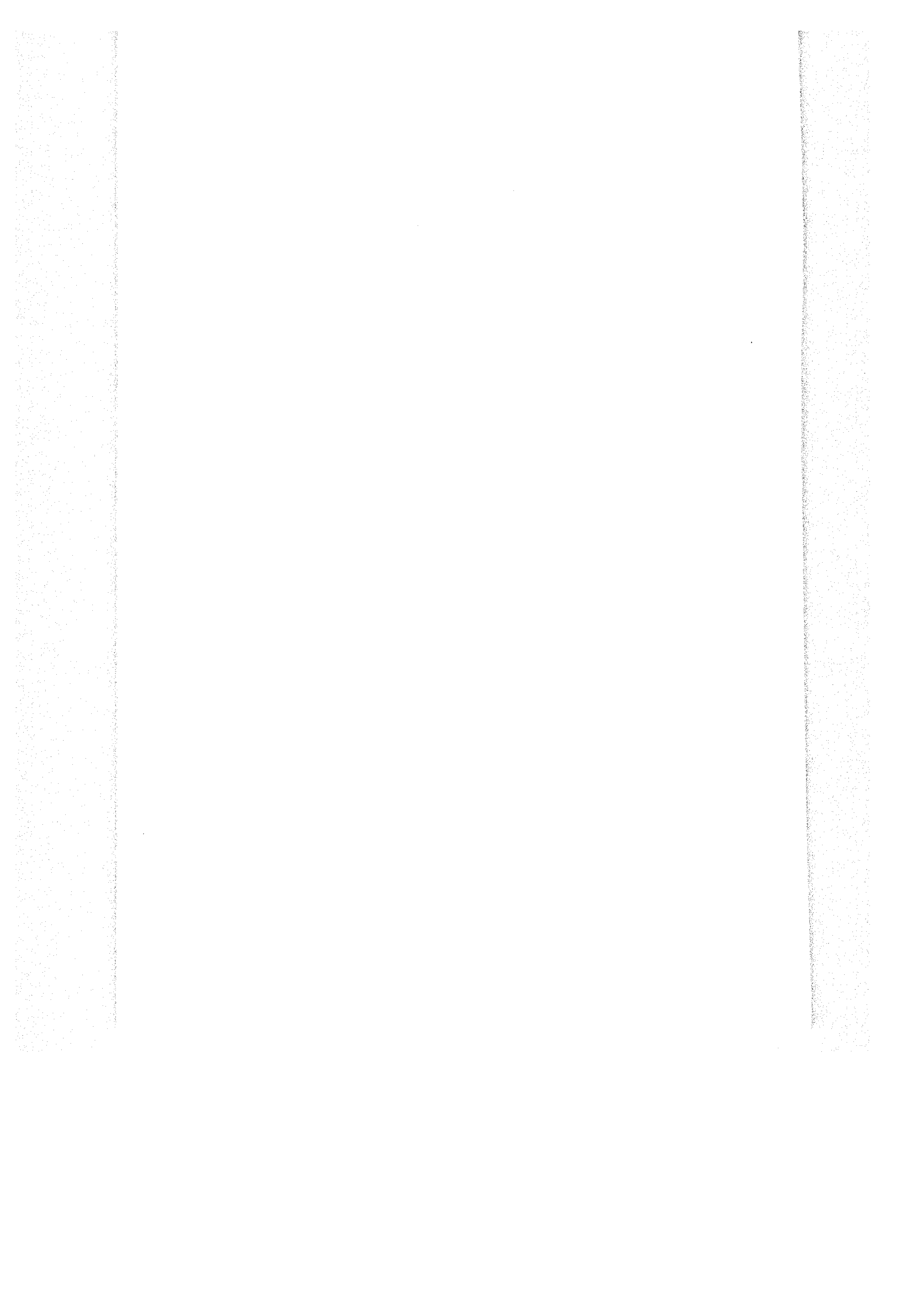
e) Appeals to the Solidarity Movements to fulfill their regular financial obligations to the budget of the movement.

f) Recommends that a serious study of the possibilities of convening a solidarity conference of Afro-Asian and Latin American Peoples, should be undertake.

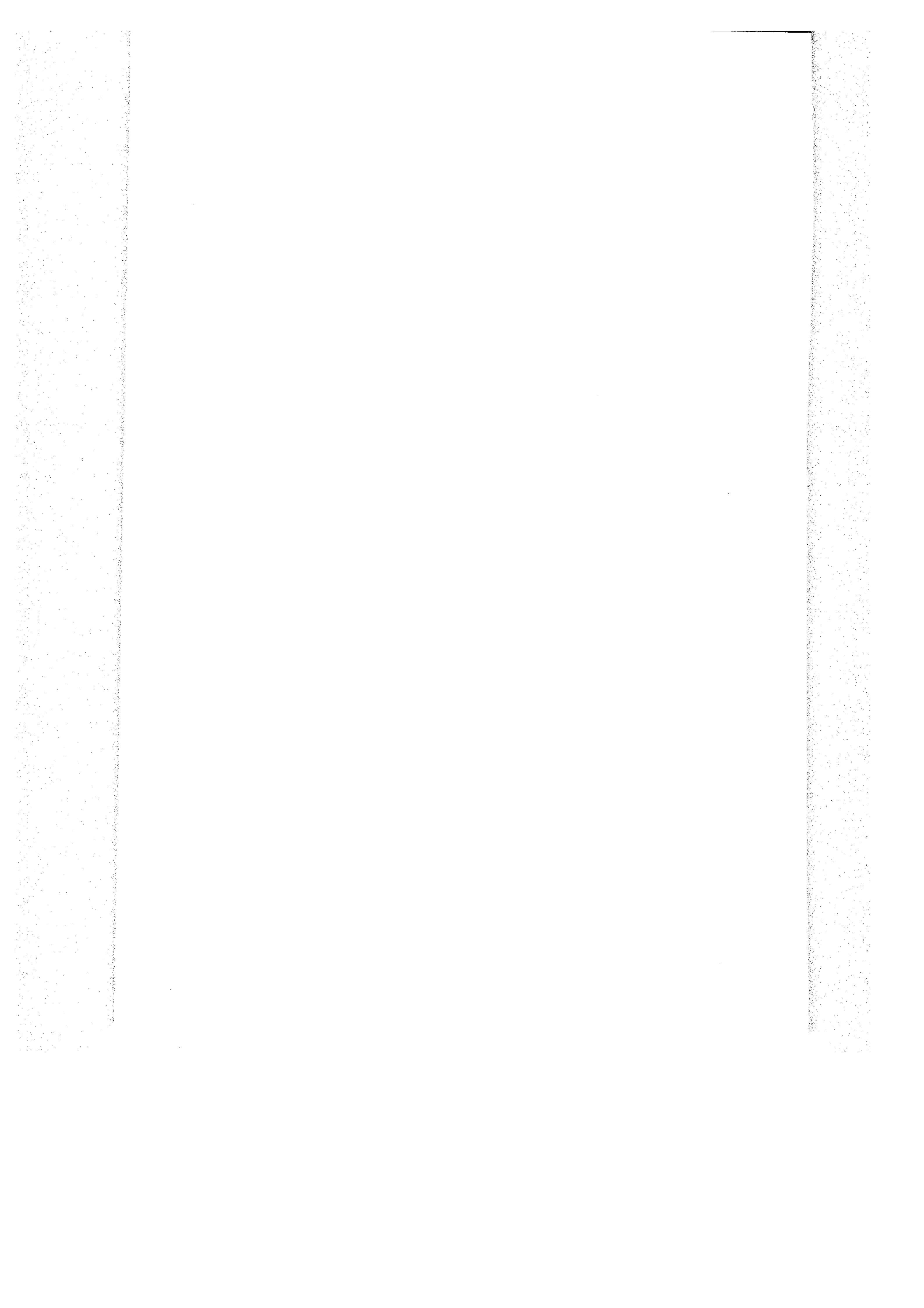


Chapter I

The Meetings Of AAPSO Constitutional Organs



(A) The Congresses



First Conference*
Resolutions Adopted By The Conference
On January, 1958
Cairo - ARE

Declaration

We, Afro-Asian peoples, who met in Cairo from December 26, 1957 to January I, 1958, to discuss international problems which concern Afro-Asian peoples.

Reviewed political, economic, social and cultural problems which confront our peoples.

We have been animated with, but one feeling, co-operation and unity among our peoples and complete friendship with all the peoples of the world.

After seven days of harmonious discussion, our conference reached unanimous agreement on proposals for solution of the various problems. This proves that Afro-Asian peoples in their endeavour to support peace, have reached unity on a higher level, and have adopted a common programme of action. The Conference has unanimously agreed to set up a permanent organisation in Cairo for the purpose of giving practical effect to its resolutions.

We declare that the principles adopted by the Bandung Conference of April 1955 should remain the basis of international relations. We renew our absolute support for the following ten principles which have had the backing of our peoples during the past years:

* AAPSO Publications (Without No.) "Afro-Asian Peoples Conference".

1- Respect for the fundamental rights of man and the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter.

2- Respect for the sovereignty of all peoples and the integrity their territories.

3- Recognition of equality among all races and all nations, big and small.

4- Abstention from all intervention in the internal affairs of other countries.

5- Respect for the rights of every nation to self-defence, individually or collectively, according to the United Nations Charter.

6- **a)** Abstention from the use of collective defensive organisations for the service of the private ends of any great powers.

b) Abstention of any power from applying pressure on other countries.

7- Avoidance of aggressive actions and threats and of the use of force against the regional security or the political independence of any country.

8- Settlement of all international disputes by peaceful methods such as negotiations, conciliation, arbitration, judicial measures or any other peaceful methods chosen by the parties concerned, according to the United Nations Charter.

9- The development of our common interests and mutual co-operation.

10- Respect for justice and international obligations.

We are fully convinced that if these ten principles are accepted, the present world tension would definitely relax and the deadly fear of annihilation that now grips the hearts of millions, can be lifted.

We declare that the foundations of peace cannot be firmly established until we dissipate this tension. We welcome every

step taken in this direction. We call upon the peoples of the world to use every possible means for the creation of areas of agreement and understanding, which will inevitably lead to disarmament, to the banning of the production of nuclear weapons, their tests and use. We call upon the peoples of the world to direct their scientific efforts and the use of nuclear energy, towards peaceful purposes and the service of humanity, and for realization of prosperity and complete co-operation among peoples on the basis of equality and according to the United Nations Charter.

Afro-Asian peoples believe that imperialist domination, foreign exploitation and the other evils which result from the subjugation of peoples are a denial of the fundamental rights of man and a violation of the United Nations Charter, apart from the other harmful effects on both governments and governed, which impede the development peace and international co-operation. The continued existence of imperialism is not compatible with the new era the world is now passing through. Afro-Asian peoples firmly believe in the right of every people to secure freedom and independence.

The Afro-Asian peoples desire unity; they also want to work together and to help each other in order to struggle for the welfare of the Afro-Asian peoples as well as that of the whole of mankind. We will devote our relentless efforts for the achievement of enduring peace in the world.

Peace will surely be victorious.

Humanity can face its future with hope and confidence. This is the New Year message of the Afro-Asian People Solidarity Conference in Cairo to the whole world.

Political Resolutions

(First) Resolution on Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament

I.

Appeal To The Government Of U.S.A., U.S.S.R. And U.K. To Ban Nuclear Weapon Tests

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference regards the continuing tests of nuclear weapons as a serious menace to humanity.

We demand an immediate and unconditional banning of the tests, as a first step towards the complete prohibition of the manufacture, the stockpiling and the use of these weapons of mass destruction, and a step towards universal disarmament.

As the U.S.S.R. Government has declared its readiness to stop nuclear weapon tests, beginning from January 1958, we appeal to the U.S.A. and the U.K. Governments to take the same attitude.

In the name of peace and happiness of all Peoples, an agreement on this problem must be reached.

II.

Appeal To The Scientists Of All Countries

Scientists of the world!

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference appeals to you, who know more than anybody else, the real destructive power of the atrocious nuclear weapons, and who well realize what humanity might suffer, from such an atomic war.

The threat to make use of atomic weapons in a new war will indeed bring the world to a general catastrophe. This makes it encumbent on you, shapers of the future, to prevent this calamity by every possible means.

It is precisely for these reasons that the Afro-Asian conference,

convened in Cairo, appeals to the conscience of the world at large, and to you, who are responsible for the invention of this destructive weapon, to take every possible step to bring pressure upon all governments concerned to prohibit the use of nuclear weapons, and to destroy those in stock.

Let the scientists all over the world compete, not in the invention of new mass destructive weapons, but in disclosing secrets of nature, and new discoveries that would serve the cause of progress of nations and peoples.

III.
Resolution On Disarmament And Elimination Of The Menace Of Atomic War

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference regards with regret:

That a renewed attempt is being made to speed up the armament race on a larger scale, to make new schedules for nuclear weapon tests, to set up atomic war bases in Europe, Asia, Africa and the rest of the world and to reinforce military blocs.

That the decisions of the recent N.A.T.O. session to supply its member countries with nuclear and rocket weapons has accentuated the cold war.

That the carrying of nuclear bombs continuously by aeroplanes may result in the outbreak of an atomic war even by mischance.

Thus the menace of atomic war has become more serious to mankind, especially to the peoples of Asia and Africa.

This Conference regards nuclear weapon tests as dangerous expression of preparation for atomic war. We demand the immediate and unconditional banning of such tests, as a first step towards the complete prohibition of the manufacture, the stockpiling and the use of nuclear weapons and for universal disarmament.

We oppose the introduction of nuclear and rocket weapons into foreign countries, and the establishment and expansion of military bases, especially of atomic war bases, in foreign countries.

We demand that a reduction of the armed forces and armaments of great powers must be carried out at first, and we appeal to the U.N. to take decisive measures in this respect.

We firmly believe that Asia and Africa should be a peace zone where no nuclear and rocket weapons should exist.

We, Afro-Asian Peoples, appeal to the peoples of the whole world to unite in support of these resolutions. In these world-wide efforts, the common action of peoples can play a decisive role.

The power of the peoples is stronger than that of nuclear weapons and can eliminate the menace of atomic war.

IV.
Recommendations On Common Action Against Nuclear Weapons

The Conference has made important decisions on prohibition of nuclear tests. It recommends the following in order to materialize the decisions quickly into actions.

1. The Conference supports and expresses its full co-operation with the 4th. World Conference against A and H Bombs which is to be held in August, 1958.

2. The Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference recommends the peoples of Asia and Africa to take common action on March 1st. 1958, in order to prevent the nuclear tests at Eniweteck Atoll by the U.S.A.

3. The Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference supports the idea of calling in 1958 a World Congress of Peoples for Disarmament and Peaceful Co-existence.

(Second) Resolutions Concerning the United Nations

1. Afro-Asian Representation:

The Afro-Asia Peoples' Conference taking note of the under-representation of African and Asian countries in the various organs and bodies of the United Nations, recommends that suitable action be taken to correct this disproportion.

2. China:

The Conference demands that China's legal and rightful place in the United Nations must be restored. No important international problems; especially those of the Far East can be reasonably settled without the active participation of the People's Republic of China.

3. Mongolia:

The Conference recognises the lawful right of Mongolia to be a member of the United Nations and demands its immediate admission.

(Third) Resolutions on Imperialism

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference firmly believes that imperialistic ambitions lead to interference in the affairs of other countries, to military and political pacts and alliances directed against world peace. These ambitions lead to conspiracies against national governments, to the creation of continued tension in international relations, to the usurping of the natural rights of smaller nations, to freedom, sovereignty and independence. They lead to incitement of cold war, and to bolstering up the armament race. Such factors may act as a trigger to start a shooting war that will be disastrous to mankind.

Because of this, and in the spirit of Bandung, it condemns:

- Imperialism in all its forms and manifestations;
- foreign interference in affairs of other countries;
- military and political pacts and alliances that create overriding

spheres of influence, endanger world peace, and suppress people's aspirations;

- military aid to one country or a group of countries, which constitutes:

- a threat to neighbouring countries and compels them to increase their military budgets thus retarding their people's economic developments;

- treaties that encroach upon the national sovereignty of nations;

- the exploitation of national economies in other countries for the benefit of imperialistic Powers;

- conspiring to overthrow notional governments in the interests of imperialists;

- aids on conditions, detrimental to the interests of smaller countries, that ultimately jeopardise their sovereignty and independence;

- the establishment of foreign military bases and forces on the territories of other countries.

The Conference sees in the policy embodied in the Panchashila and the ten principles of Bandung the best means to alleviate international tension and to end the cold war,

Therefore, it declares, that it gives its full support to the rights of peoples:

- to freedom, self-determination, sovereignty and complete independence;

- to settle their internal problems by themselves;

- to choose the form of their governments according to their desires.

The Conference draws the attention of the world to the following:

1 - COLONIES AND PROTECTORATES:

The Conference demands that the right to complete independence of all colonies and protectorates be recognised and

that this right be implemented without delay by the powers concerned.

2 - COUNTRIES UNDER TRUSTEESHIP:

The Conference demands that the United Nations should end trusteeships in countries subjected to it, recognise their complete independence, and take early steps towards this end.

3 - POLITICAL PERSECUTION:

The Conference urges that the political persecution of participants in national movements against imperialism must be brought to an end.

It demands that general amnesties be declared by which all persons imprisoned or exiled for the above reasons, will forthwith be released or permitted to return to their homelands.

4 - THE KAMERUN:

The Conference supports the demands of the people of the Kamerun for negotiations between France and Britain on the one hand, and their rightful representatives on the other, to reach a just solution to their problem.

The Conference hopes that the United Nations shall appreciate the seriousness of the situation in the Kamerun.

The Conference also calls upon the Afro-Asian countries to help by all means the struggle of peoples of the Kamerun for their unification and independence.

The Conference condemns the violent measures taken by the French authorities in this territory, and appeals to French public opinion to urge its Government to stop such measures.

5 - KENYA:

The Conference endorses the right of the people of Kenya to self-determination and for the restoration of their usurped lands.

The Conference supports the demand of the people of Kenya for the submission of their case to the Security Council and the appointment of a United Nations Commission of Enquiry into the crimes committed by the British during three years of colonial war.

The Conference supports the demand for the release of all political prisoners.

6 - UGANDA:

The Conference endorses the demand of the people of Uganda that their case be submitted to the United Nations.

7 - CHAD:

The Conference endorses and supports the struggle of the people of Chad for the independence of their country from French rule.

8 - TOGO:

The Conference invites the people of Asia end Africa to follow carefully the plebiscite that will take place in Togo under the French Trusteeship during 1958.

It invites them also to send observers at the proper time to witness this plebiscite.

The Conference supports the demand of the people of Togo for amnesty of those politically condemned and that they should be released so that such nationals would not be prevented from exercising their electoral rights.

9 - MADAGASCAR:

The Conference supports the struggle of the people of Madagascar for the restoration of their national independence.

The Conference supports the demand for a general amnesty of the patriots condemned in 1947.

10 - YEMEN:

The Conference endorses the struggle and demands of the Yemeni people, both in the North and the South (Aden and the Protectorates), for the liberation of the South and its unity with the North. It condemns the bloodshed committed in the South.

The Conference also condemns the untold atrocities inflicted upon the people as a consequence of the existence of British bases in the area.

The Conference demands the evacuation of these bases and

the withdrawal of foreign forces from the area.

11 - THE ARABIAN GULF:

The Conference endorses the right of the Arab people in the Arabian Gulf and the Arab Island of Bahrein, to their independence, and demands the stoppage of aggression in Oman, as well as the withdrawal of foreign troops from the area of the Arabian Gulf.

The Conference calls on the Afro-Asian peoples to recognise the independence of Oman.

The Conference supports both demands of the people of Oman to release leaders imprisoned politically and to appoint a neutral enquiry commission to investigate atrocities committed by the British against the people.

12 - INDONESIA:

The Conference endorses the demand of the Indonesian people for the return of West Irian, which is an integral part of the Republic of Indonesia.

The Conference recognises that all the territorial waters around and between the island of the Indonesian Archipelago are entirely within the national jurisdiction of Indonesia.

The Conference endorses the steps taken by the government of Indonesia to secure the lawful return of West Irian.

The Conference recommends that countries which are neighbours to Indonesia should not allow the Netherlands to use their harbours and airports for the carrying of troops or weapons or for any other purpose hostile to Indonesia.

13 - OKINAWA:

The Conference endorses the demand of the Japanese people for the immediate return of Okinawa to them.

It demands from the United Nations to make recommendations to the U.S.A. and Japan to take necessary measures for the early return of Okinawa to Japan.

14 - CYPRUS:

The Conference supports the struggle of the Cypriots for their self-determination in order to maintain peace in the Middle East and the world.

The Conference also demands that the United Nations recommends the application of the principles of self-determination in the case of Cyprus, and urges the Governments of the countries of Asia and Africa to take appropriate steps in this regard.

15 - GOA:

The Conference endorses the Indian demand for the return of Goa as it is an integral part of India.

16 - KOREA:

The Conference supports the demands of the people of Korea that Korea's unification should be peacefully effected by the Korean people themselves without any foreign coercion.

The Conference endorses the demand of Korean people for the withdrawal of all foreign armed forces from Korean soil. It also endorses their demand for the strict observance of the Korean Armistice Agreement and for the conversion of the Armistice into a lasting peace.

The Conference holds that a conference of the nations concerned should soon be convened for the realisation of a peaceful unification of Korea.

It also recommends to the authorities of North and South Korea to have mutual and direct contacts for the common welfare of the entire people of Korea and for world peace.

17 - VIETMAN:

The Conference supports the legitimate demands of the people of Vietman, urging:

- a thorough implementation of the Geneva Agreements;
- an end to the interference of the imperialists in South Vietman;
- the opening of a consultative conference between the

authorities of North and South Vietman to discuss nation-wide free general elections with a view to the unification of Vietman, in accordance with the Geneva Agreements.

18 - AQABA GULF:

The Conference holds that the Aqaba Gulf is a closed Arab Gulf within the territorial waters of the Arab Countries.

19 - MOROCCO:

The Conference strongly supports the demand of Morocco for the return of areas still dominated by imperialism in order to ensure the unity and complete independence of Morocco.

20 – SOMALILAND:

The Conference supports the struggle of the Somalia people for their independence and recognises their right to self-determination.

21 - THE ARAB NATION:

The Conference endorses the struggle of the Arab peoples for unity, independence and freedom from foreign influence.

It condemns vehemently any foreign interference which endangers peace in the Middle East and the world, irrespective of the fact that this interference is direct or through bilateral treaties between unequal parties infringing upon national sovereignty, or through military and political strings, or through any other means militating against the freedom and sovereignty of the peoples.

The Conference considers that both the Baghdad Pact and the Eisenhower Doctrine interfere with the independence of the Arab countries, infringe upon their sovereignty and endanger their security.

22 - ASSISTANCE TO STRUGGLING PEOPLES:

The Conference urges the Afro-Asian peoples to give their full support to those struggling for their freedom and independence.

It urges the peoples of Asia and Africa to mobilise national and international public opinion against imperialism in all its forms and manifestations. This mobilisation of public opinion will strengthen

the stand of the struggling ones on the one hand and awaken the peoples of the world to defend the natural rights of the oppressed ones on the other, in order to effect security and welfare to the oppressed and to maintain world peace.

It also urges the Afro-Asian peoples to provide every possible material aid to peoples struggling in all the areas of the world until they obtain their uncontested right to freedom and complete independence.

(Fourth) Resolutions on Racial Discrimination

1 - NOTING with grave concern and deep regret the practice of the policies of Racial Discrimination in many countries of the world particularly in South Africa as a result of foreign domination and imperialism;

2 - NOTING the serious effects of the policies of Racial discrimination on the coloured peoples of the world and on the rest of the human race; such effects that lowered the standard of living of the people discriminated against, made them a prey to disease, ignorance and poverty and loading their breasts with ill-feelings towards the governments and the peoples who practice Racial Discrimination;

3 - NOTING that the real causes for Racial Discrimination are the desire for political domination and economic greed as well as some contributing factors such as social customary and traditional, minorities;

4 - NOTING with appreciation the efforts exerted by international organizations and the United Nations for finding the means to eradicate racial discrimination and guaranteeing the rights of minorities;

We, the Afro-Asian Peoples here assembled, hereby resolve to:

1 - Condemn the policies of Racial Discrimination in whatever form they exist.

2 - **a)** Note with deep regret the attitude adopted by South

Africa in systematically flouting the decisions of the U.N.

b) Call upon South Africa to live up to its commitments to the United Nations Charter as a full-fledged member of the United Nations.

3 - Recommend to all governments of the world that steps be taken in every country where Racial Discrimination is practised to ensure the:

a) Repealing of all laws and regulations legislating Racial Discrimination or segregation or apartheid.

b) Freedom of speech, right of association and grouping for all persons without any discrimination.

c) Granting to all persons above a certain age the right of candidature and voting for parliaments, irrespective of their colour, race or creed.

d) Equality of wages for men and women according to the work done by each and the abolishing of forced labour.

e) Granting of equal right of citizenship without any reservation.

f) Repealing of all land laws which enable the Europeans to alienate land from the coloured people.

g) Granting the right for all individuals and groups to promote their wealth resources within a planned economy consented to by all citizens.

Appeal to all peoples, the United Nations and all the member states, to spare no effort in taking measure to eradicate Racial Discrimination as well as urge all international institutions to continue their efforts in combatting Racial Discrimination.

(Fifth) Resolution on Algeria

Considering the legitimate right of the Algerian people to their independence and national sovereignty;

Considering that successive French Governments are carrying out a veritable colonial war aiming at the extermination of the Algerian people;

Considering that this war has even roused the indignation and protest of important sections of French public opinion;

Considering that this war causes considerable material and human losses leading to the exodus of hundreds of thousands of refugees to Tunisia and Morocco and to the rendering of ever increasing numbers shelterless in their own country and whose sufferings cry for immediate help;

Considering the systematic refusal of France to conduct any serious negotiations, manifested in their recent refusal once again to accept the offer of good-offices of the Heads of States of Tunisia and Morocco, in spite of the recommendations of the U.N.

Considering that this war on the Algerian people is a threat to the security of the African people and international peace;

The -Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference held in Cairo:

1 - Condemns the Colonial war waged in Algeria and the atrocities committed by the French imperialist forces against the Algerian people who are fighting for their independence.

2 - Affirms its support to the heroic struggle of the Algerian people.

3 - Demands that:

a) The independence of the Algerian people must be recognised without delay.

b) Negotiations must be started immediately between the French Government and the National Liberation Front which represents the Algerian people, on the basis of complete independence of Algeria.

c) The immediate release of the five leaders and all other Algerian nationalists who are in jails and concentration camps.

4 - Protests against the use of Africans in the French Army in Algeria and calls upon them to refuse to fight their brothers.

5 - Calls upon all peoples of the world and Asians and Africans in particular, to carry out press campaign, demonstrations and all other appropriate means of action to mobilise public opinion

against the genocide in Algeria and make France respect the human rights and the Geneva Convention on the Rules of war;

Consequently:

a) March 30, 1958, must be observed as "Algeria Solidarity Day" all over Africa and Asia by holding demonstrations, mass meetings, gatherings etc.;

b) Recommends the formation of committees for the freedom of Algeria and calls on all peoples of Asia and Africa to help the Algerian people by money, clothes, medicines, food supplies and all other forms of material aid, and

c) Help the Algerian Refugees who need immediate aid.

6 - Calls on all Governments, particularly those of Asia and Africa:

a) To press for the independence of Algeria in all international organisations.

b) To use all appropriate means in order to make the French Government cease hostilities in Algeria.

c) To find adequate means for stopping any help from other governments to France.

(Sixth) Resolutions on Palestine

1 - The Conference adopts the attached report submitted by the Palestine Delegation on this case.

2 - The Conference declares that the State of Israel is a base of imperialism which threatens the progress and security of the Middle East, and condemns its aggressive policy which is a threat to world peace.

3 - The Conference confirms the Arab rights in Palestine, expresses its sympathy with the Palestine refugees, and supports all their rights and their return to their homeland.

The Palestine Problem

Imperialism plans for domination of the Arab homeland started many years before World War I. Such plans stemmed out of the

fact that Arab countries possess great economic and stragetic importance, as well as form an important geographical link between Asia and Africa.

Before World War I, Arab national struggle for liberation and unity began to develop in various parts of the Arab homeland. Imperialists realized then the great dangers of Arab liberation and unity and their threat to its existence and exploitation of the area. Therefore, imperialist powers plotted an imperialistic Zionist conspiracy against the Arabs, their homeland, their destiny and integrity which is one of the most hideous conspiracies that history has ever witnessed.

Hence, the Arab homeland was divided between France and Britain, and Palestine, was placed under British mandatory rule. Thus British imperialists were able to work for the realization of the imperialistic Zionist plans in Palestine.

The so-called Balfour Declaration was the basis of the realization of these plans. It aimed at the establishment of an imperialistic spearhead in Palestine and the establishment of a Zionist state which would form a permanent imperialistic base and constitute a barrier between Asia and Africa as the Solidarity of those two Continents alarms the imperialists.

This Balfour Declaration was a statement issued on behalf of the British Government, by Lord Balfour, then British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, on November 2, 1947. This declaration stated: "THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT views with favour the establishment of a national home for Jews in Palestine, it being understood that it would not prejudice the religious and civil rights of the non-Jewish population of Palestine ".

The aims of this declaration were inserted by the imperialist powers and Zionist leaders into the Mandatory Act.

Arabs strongly resisted the British Mandate and the Balfour Declaration. They declared both invalid and unbinding and refused to comply with them.

It is, therefore, clear that the Palestine problem originates from an imperialist Zionist plot which aimed at the expulsion of an indigenous people from their homeland, in order to make possible the establishment of a state which embodies imperialist interests and possesses aggressive racial expansionist Zionist plans.

Since Britain enforced its authority in Palestine against the will of its people, it proceeded to collaborate with the Jewish Agency for the realization of an Imperialist-Zionist policy in the political, economic and social fields. This policy aimed at ousting of the inhabitants of the country and creating conditions that would facilitate the establishment of an aggressive racial state.

The most obvious aspects of this policy were:

1- The encouragement of Jewish immigration to Palestine. This raised the percentage of Jews in Palestine from 7% before the British Mandate to 33 per cent at the date of its termination in 1948.

2- The implementation of a general economic policy, especially with regard to land and agriculture, which led to the impoverishment of the Arab peasant and the facilitation of the transfer of land to Jews.

Despite this, the total percentage of land owned by the Jews on the termination of the Mandate did not exceed 8% of the total area of the country, because of the Arab's attachment to his land.

3- The arming and training of Jewish organizations, and co-operation of the Mandatory authorities with these organizations in suppressing Arab resistance.

Yet Arab resistance never ceased. It continued to be a strong declaration of Arab refusal to comply with the imperialist-Zionist plans and policies.

The history of the British Mandate in Palestine is full of atrocities and brutal acts.

4- Under the Mandate, the Zionist movement in Palestine was growing on a racial expansionist line, fed by military preparations

specially aiming at the expulsion of Arabs from their country.

After World War II, imperialist and Zionist leadership was transferred to the U.S.A. This new leader took over the responsibility to execute this conspiracy against Palestine, its people and its national integrity.

With the establishment of Israel this conspiracy reached its climax.

Once again the people of Palestine fought in the defence of their homeland and their existence against stronger imperialist and Zionist forces. The establishment of Israel resulted in the ousting of the indigenous people of Palestine and the seizure of their lands and homes by the foreign invaders.

Thus Israel was established in accordance with an imperialist-Zionist conspiracy, and by armed invasion of Palestine which led to the expulsion of Palestinians from their country.

Israel was therefore originally established in clear defiance of the Rights of Man.

Since it was established, Israel has demonstrated by all its acts, its aggressive imperialistic nature and revealed its expansionist racial designs.

Israeli attacks on the Arabs never ceased since its establishment. These attacks reached their climax when Israel took part in the imperialistic tripartite aggression against Egypt in October 1956.

This fact reveals beyond any doubt the aggressive intentions of Israel towards the Arabs, and proves beyond all doubt that Israel is an instrument in the hands of imperialists, ready to be used at any time as a means of achieving imperialist ends. Among those ends, are:

1- Obstructing Arab liberation movements and struggles for unity. . . .

2 - The absorption of Arab potentialities which otherwise would be used for constructive social and economic progress . . . .

3- Opposing the Arab nationalist movement which aims at unifying the Arab struggle for achieving liberation and unity....

The aggressive expansionist nature of Israel is revealed by its relentless efforts to import an unlimited number of immigrants, and by the apparent Israeli schemes for the domination of substantial parts of the Arab homeland extending from the Nile to the Tigris, and comprising Jordan and parts of Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq.

Such schemes are actually supported by imperialists mainly America, which supplies Israel with the necessary funds and arms.

Imperialism and Zionism are trying now by all possible means to liquidate the Palestine problem and annul Arab rights. For that, they have been using all ways and means to force Arab refugees to abdicate their rights and give up all hope of returning to their homes.

These attempts are futile. The attachment of the refugees to their homes, and their determination to return to their homes are stronger than the sufferings of the ten years they have endured.

The motto of the refugees who live in tents and caves is still «We want to go home».

This is a brief review of certain important aspects of the Palestine problem, which reveals the reality of Israel and its imperialist racial expansionist nature. It also exposes the role it plays in the opposition of liberation and progress and in threatening the peace of this area.

It also states some facts concerning the problem of the refugees which is an integral part of the Palestine problem.

We hope this brief resumé will help our fellow-delegates to discuss this problem in a spirit of justice, guided by the principles of the rights of peoples' to self-liberation, these rights which were embodied in the Bandung principles.

History looks to the solidarity of the Asian and African peoples

for the affirmation and defence of these principles and their translation into living factors in human relations.

The people of Palestine, victims of imperialism and Zionism, have great confidence and big hopes that this conference will give their just cause its material and moral support.

Economic Resolutions

Introduction:

The peoples of Asia and Africa are now passing through a critical stage in their evolution towards independence. Most of the countries of these two continents are still suffering a great deal from the evils of imperialism and its tyranny. To mention a few of these evils: the loss of their independence, the backwardness of their economy, the low standard of living, the spread of unemployment and the insufficient educational opportunities among their peoples. These peoples occupy 59% of the world's area, containing much of the mineral and agricultural wealth and very huge human potential, with a population estimated to be 70% of the world's total.

The peoples of Africa and Asia have fought against these detrimental conditions, and though some have attained their independence, still their economy is subject to the tyrannical imperialists. They are still a focus for imperialism's ambitions. One hundred and fifty million of the inhabitants of Africa and Asia are still suffering from imperialism and its exploitation of their resources. The people of Africa and Asia are determined to overcome all obstacles in their way. They realize fully that the economy of many Afro-Asian countries is un-balanced; unemployment is widespread, prices are soaring up and workers generally do not enjoy the benefits of trade union rights. The people of Africa and Asia realize fully that more attention should be given to production so as to yield a reasonable return.

In their present liberation movement, the peoples of Africa and

Asia find it necessary to work closely, not only in the political sphere, but also in that of economics. They realize that their independence, and social, material and cultural standards cannot be maintained without their economic development. They deem it necessary, in our present times when imperialist powers are combining forces, that their solidarity should prevail. The Afro-Asian peoples are of the opinion that they should work together for their economic development and co-ordination of their plans on mutual and reciprocal bases of interest.

Representatives of the Afro-Asian countries in their Solidarity Conference here in Cairo, after due discussion of conditions, have reached various conclusions in the form of recommendations, general and special. These recommendations will be the watchword in all their activities, including matters dealing with commercial exchange, economic development, labour and co-operatives, and the deliverance of the dependent countries from imperialism.

This co-operation and solidarity in the different economic spheres will consolidate their national independence and foster world peace.

A - General Resolutions

The peoples of Asia and Africa who have achieved political independence are determined to continue their struggle against all forms of colonialism and imperialism and particularly to secure the complete economic independence of their countries.

Guided by the above aims, the Conference calls upon all the governments of Asia and Africa to co-operate more closely in the task of diversifying their economies through industrialization in order to raise the living standards of their peoples. In particular, the Conference urges:

a) The abolition of the existing inequality in the exchange between developed and underdeveloped countries;

b) The establishment of favourable prices for raw materials in

the world market;

c) The establishment of such currency exchange relations as would stimulate the development of national economies of underdeveloped countries;

d) The development of trade between nations irrespective of their socio-economic systems;

e) The use of the natural resources of each country for the benefit of its people;

f) The development of economic relations between countries in a manner not detrimental to their national independence and sovereignty.

The Conference declares that Nationalization is a lawful means and a right possessed by every nation in accordance with the principles of national sovereignty.

The Conference recommends the setting up of a permanent committee with a view to collecting data and information relating to the Afro-Asian countries and distributing such data and information by all possible means in order to facilitate economic relations amongst them.

The Conference calls upon the governments of the Afro-Asian countries to study economic development in the light of prevailing social and economic conditions and present international relationships. Such studies of comprehensive planning should be conducted in a special conference to be called at a future date in order to speed up socio-economic development with a view to raising the living standards of their peoples thereby narrowing the gap between individual nations and safeguarding world peace, and implementing the United Nations Charter and Bandung Principles.

B - Resolutions For Commercial Exchange

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference adopts the following recommendations:

1 - Emphasizes the need for the development of trade between

all nations without any discrimination or restriction and declares that such discriminations and restrictions as have been imposed upon certain Afro-Asian countries due to their socio-economic system, are unjust and should be abolished; and declares that the blocking of balances or the preventing of their full and free utilization is unlawful and unjustifiable and should be strongly resisted.

2- Notes with satisfaction the concrete development of the Bandung spirit of close economic co-operation as evidenced by the conclusion of numerous trade and aid agreements between many African and Asian countries since the Bandung conference; and the great increase in trade between the Afro-Asian countries which resulted therefrom.

3- Welcomes the notable efforts of the Arab countries in their attempts to effect closer economic co-operation. Such true friendly co-operation built on the basis of equality and mutual assistance will have the effect of promoting a greater development of economic and trade relations between the countries of the Afro-Asian area as a whole.

4- Urges the Afro-Asian countries to study and explore all avenues leading to the establishment of easier trade relations and methods of payment with a view of facilitating the further development of trade and closer economic co-operation between Afro-Asian countries on a basis of equality and mutual benefit.

5- Recommends the invitation of Unions and Chambers of Commerce in the Afro-Asian countries to hold a conference in Cairo at the end of 1958 to study ways and means of expanding commercial exchange and promoting co-operation between the countries of the Afro-Asian group.

6- Calls upon the Afro-Asian governments to conclude agreements among themselves for the exchange of Afro-Asian goods and material on reciprocally favourable bases, and urges that similar privileges extended to the commercial agents of those

countries.

7- Calls upon the Afro-Asian governments to have better means of communications and transportation so as to hasten economic development, and invites Afro-Asian governments, as well as railway, maritime and aviation firms therein to fix reduced rates for the carriage of citizens and products of Afro-Asian countries.

C - Resolutions For Agricultural And Industrial Devolopment

The committee is of the opinion that the under-developed economies and low living standards of the Afro-Asian countries were the products of a variety of causes: namely, the inadequacy of capital, the shortage of technical skill, the lack of industrial development, the ravages of agricultural diseases and pests and the failure to fully utilize available resources through the proper planning of production. The majority of these causes are due to the subjugation of national economies in the Afro-Asian countries to imperialist domination. The committee therefore resolved:

1- The Conference has no objection to the investment of foreign capital, nor does it object to obtaining foreign loans provided that such foreign capital investments and loans are not subject to political conditions or are of such a nature as to restrict or to direct the economy of the recipient country; nor should it have any special privilege over national capital.

2- The Conference calls upon Afro-Asian governments companies and other bodies to organize the exchange of economic and technical, data and information and the exchange of experts in all fields of production.

3- In view of the fact that speedy economic development is not being realized in Afro-Asian countries, the Conference calls for immediate action by the governments concerned with a view to planning, organizing and harmonizing production, means of development and marketing facilities in order to fully utilize their natural resources.

4- The Conference urges the Afro-Asian governments to give due importance to industrialization as means of raising the living standard of the peoples of those countries, and to provide agriculture with modern machinery in order to increase production, and to industrialize and modernize fishing and forestry.

5- The Conference recommends that the Afro-Asian governments should conclude an agreement among themselves to organize campaigns against agricultural and animal pests and diseases and establish regional centres for the production of this work.

6- The Conference considers that agrarian reforms which would stimulate the development of national economies of the countries have become an urgent necessity.

D - Resolutions For Labour And Co-operation

With a view to mobilizing the broad sections of peoples of the Asian and African countries for combatting imperialism, promoting world peace, attaining and maintaining national independence, developing national economy and improving living conditions of the people, the Conference deems it necessary to promote unceasingly, solidarity and co-operation in trade union and co-operative movements of the Asian and African countries, within the spirit of the Bandung Conference.

Taking into consideration the wishes and aspirations of the workers and many trade unions and co-operative movements of Asia and Africa for solidarity and co-operation, the Conference urges that when appropriate circumstances mature, a trade union conference be convened with broad representation to discuss their common problems.

1- The conference is of the opinion that economic development in the various countries of Asia and Africa aims at the full utilization of idle sources of wealth, towards putting an end to unemployment and raising the standards of living among the working classes. It also urges the African and Asian governments

to restrict the continued rise in prices of essential commodities, so that the living standards of peoples can be improved.

2- The Conference calls upon the governments of countries of Asia and Africa to guarantee the rights of workers to form their own trade unions, and to encourage collective labour relations for the solution of all labour problems in their respective countries.

3- The Conference emphasizes that the application of the principles of justice, equality and solidarity makes it necessary that equal wages should be paid for the same kind of work, and that any discrimination in wages on the ground of race or religion is neither sound nor just, and is detrimental to the solidarity of our nations.

4- The Conference recommends the Afro-Asian governments to establish minimum wages for the various kinds of work and provide the necessary social guarantees for workers.

5- The Conference encourages the formation of co-operative societies for production and setting up of co-operative movements in accordance with the particular circumstances in each country. It urges the strengthening of co-operative relations among the Afro-Asian countries.

6- The Conference recommends the mutual exchange of technical experts and information among labour unions and cooperative movements. It further recommends the exchange of educational missions and seminars.

7- The Conference requests its permanent Cairo Secretariat to establish the widest possible contact with the trade unions and co-operation for the above mentioned purposes.

E - Resolutions For Dependent Countries

The Economic Committee, after having examined the economic situation of dependent countries, finds that:

a) The maintenance of a backward economy and the absence of rational planning engender inevitably an economic stagnation with all its repercussions on the standard of living.

b) Since the shrinking of their world market, due to the liberation of many peoples, the colonizing countries devote all their efforts to exploiting further the natural resources of the dependent countries.

c) The investments in the form of subvention, loans or aid are clothed in the charter of exploitation, in as much as they take no account of the interests of the populations involved.

d) Instead of encouraging the development of products for consumption, the colonial agricultural economy concentrates its efforts only on the production of products for exportation, against the interests of the population.

e) The plans known as plans for the Social and Economic Development of Dependent Countries (F.I.D.E.S., Colonial Development and Welfare), favour the disproportion between holdings of a handful of foreign firms and the development of national capital, to the detriment of the latter.

f) The European Common Market has aimed to limit the economic field of dependent countries in making them the property of six European countries; it tends, moreover, to further strangle the aspirations of the people for independence from colonial domination by massive concentration of foreign capital in their territories; and finally leads to detaching them from the independent Afro-Asian countries.

Taking these considerations into account, the committee recommends:

I- To efficiently aid the dependent peoples in their fight for liberation from colonial oppression.

2- To issue a strong appeal to the governments of Asia and Africa urging them to respect the trade unions' freedoms in all dependent countries.

3- To denounce the European Common Market and the forced of the dependent countries in that market.

4- To create a committee within the permanent secretariat with

a view to studying the economic problems of the peoples of dependent countries, and to give scholarships and aid to the students of dependent countries to allow them to further their technical studies.

5- To urge the governments of Afro-Asian countries to work indefatigably for the restitution of Palestine to its lawful owners, the Arab refugees, with adequate compensation for their lost fortunes.

F - Resolution On Flood Disaster In Ceylon

With deep regret the Conference has noted the news of the flood disaster which has befallen the people of Ceylon. The Conference extends its deep sympathy and condolences to the people of Ceylon and appeals to all Afro-Asian governments and peoples for urgent help to the victims of this flood.

Resolutions On Social Development

Introduction:

Colonialism and imperialism in their various forms deprive the individual of his dignity as a creative social member in society, sap the energies of the people for their imperialistic ends, and exploit the labour of working men and women for their own ambitions.

Oppression, mass-murder, racial discrimination and denial of social rights have been the hallmark of colonial policy which has ultimately resulted in destroying the foundations of social structure and national solidarity.

The serious endeavours to social progress can never be severed from the sustained and persistent struggle for political independence and self-determination. It is, therefore inevitable, that all programmes for social welfare should be inextricably connected with complete liberation from imperialistic pressure of all kinds. Recent movements of liberation have proved that the creative and constructive forces of a nation can be released, only if the people fully realize that their efforts will be beneficial to themselves, and not to an oppressive power from outside or, an

exploiting agency from within.

It is a basic tenet that every economic and social development should ultimately aim at the welfare and prosperity of the people. It should seek to develop the individual's ability, to mobilize to the full his or her material and moral energies, and lead the society to proceed towards continuous and integrated development.

In the light of the foregoing principles, the conference recommends the following with regard to the three topics given hereunder:

1 - Woman and Child Welfare.

2 - Youth Welfare.

3 - Medical and Social Services.

I - Woman And Child Welfare

This Conference considering:

that imperialism has hampered and continues to hamper the welfare of the family as the main basis of society and as a vital social institution, thus resulting in the weakening and often in the disintegration, of this institution;

that women and children, in countries under colonial rule or having been subject to colonial heritage are in varying degrees, deprived of their social rights and subjected to various methods of exploitation;

that the promotion of the well-being of the woman, the child, and the family as a whole, is one of the major responsibilities of the state;

Recommends that:

1- The State should promulgate and effect such legislation as would be necessary to guarantee the adequate social organization of the family, to promote the dignity of motherhood and to ensure the welfare of children as follows :

a) Minimum age of marriage for girls should be fixed at eighteen.

b) Marriage should be based on the principle of' the personal

freedom of choice for the spouses concerned.

c) Institutions of marriage counselling and planned parenthood should be established for the purpose of health examinations and advising young men and women on marriage problems.

d) Divorce should be organized and supervised in the light of consideration of the family as a social institution.

e) Drastic measures should be taken to abolish polygamy.

f) The mother should be given the right to the custody of children in case of divorce, until a reasonable age.

2- The State should provide equal opportunities for the sexes with regard to:-

a) Equal franchise.

b) Legal rights.

c) Labour.

d) Recruitment to public offices.

e) Equal pay for equal work.

f) Property.

g) Educational opportunities.

3- Working women should be entitled to free medical care during pregnancy and child birth, and to a suitable holiday with full pay during child-birth.

4- The right of married women to work must be recognized and guaranteed.

5- The International Labour Conventions and Regulations must be adopted with regard to the conditions of employment of women, e.g. fixing hours of work, remuneration, night work and underground work.

6- Particular attention should be given to the establishment of nurseries for the children of working women.

7- Maternal and child care centres and adequate recreational facilities must be provided and extended in all parts of the country as essential agencies for improving health conditions.

8- The protection of children from conditions likely to lead them

to delinquency is a major concern of the state. Orphanages, rehabilitation centres and other institutions should be provided to equip unfortunate and handicapped children to become productive members in society.

9- Juvenile Courts with women magistrates are deemed essential to the re-education and treatment of juvenile delinquents.

10- Steps should be taken to eliminate prostitution by providing all the members of the society with adequate means of livelihood.

The Conference instructs the Secretariat:

1- To study and to take the necessary steps, when deemed feasib1e, towards the formation of an Afro-Asian Federation for women, for the purpose of promoting social and cultural ties between Afro-Asian peoples and for the betterment of understanding of the women's and children's problems in these countries, through publications, conferences, exchange of visits and through any other suitable means.

II - Youth Welfare

The Conference considering:

that the youth to-day are the men of to-morrow on whom the nation depends;

that if the youth is weak or corrupt, it will reflect on the country's present and future, and may lead to its eventual deterioration; and that if on the other hand, the youth is strong, physically, mentally, socially and morally, the nation's strength and solidarity will be secured:

that one of the major objectives of youth welfare is to foster and cultivate civic responsibilities and to provide comprehensive programs intended to benefit both the individual and the nation as a whole;

that civic education is basic to the total development of the right citizen and;

that due care should be given to the ways and means of

planning and implementing the necessary programmes of civic education;

that adequate means of strengthening solidarity and mutual understanding between Afro-Asian youth should be developed;

Recommends that:

1- The youth should be educated in the spirit of solidarity, friendship, patriotism, peace and respect for human rights.

2- The various needs of youth should be studied for a better utilization of its leisure, and the promulgation of the necessary legislative measures, contributing to youth protection and welfare.

3- Comprehensive policy concerning youth welfare in the fields of sports and social education should be drawn up, taking into account the diversified needs of youth.

4- Programmes and schemes for the realization of such a policy should be carefully implemented.

5- The necessary leaders should be trained to carry out such pragrammes and the required training pragrammes for those leaders should be prepared.

6- Camps, excursions and other outdoor educative means should be organized for the social well-being of youth.

7- Sports and recreational centres, clubs and other institutions for the promotion of the welfare and guidance of youth should be established.

8- Adequate budgets should be allocated for the realization of the aforesaid aims which are deemed essential for the formation of a good citizen.

9- Necessary legislative measures for protecting youth from immoral publications of films should be promulgated.

10- Audio-visual means such as films, slides and publications should be produced to promote youth welfare in the Afro-Asian countries.

11- An Afro-Asian Youth Conference should be held during the year 1958, to study common needs, and means of promoting

youth welfare among youth in the Afro-Asian countries. It is proposed that the conference should be held in Egypt.

12- An Interim Bureau for youth welfare affiliated to the Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Conference should be established to:

a) Encourage the cultural relations among the Afro-Asian youth.
b) Promote and support sports movements and the exchange of sports teams.

c) Organise the Afro-Asian youth Conference.

d) Extend all possible assistance to the youth of the Afro-Asian countries during their stay in any of these countries.

e) Promote the formation of youth organizations in all Afro-Asian countries.

f) Support and encourage the idea of holding regular youth festivals for the Afro-Asian countries.

g) Promote the formation of an all-union of Afro-Asian Youth.

III - Medical And Social Services

The Conference considering:

that the provision of a reasonable standard of living for all citizens is the major responsibility of the state;

that this should be realized through a system of total planning which combines economic programmes for production with programmes of social welfare services;

that the balance between the two aspects of economic production and social services must be established in the light of careful scientific analysis of the needs, resources, and potentialities of the country;

that any comprehensive programme of national development must, in all cases, include the provision of social, educational, health and housing services, as an integral part of its total plan;

Recommends that:

1- Access to social, educational, health and housing services is one of the inalienable rights of the individual. These services must be sufficiently available, both in quantity and quality, so as to

ensure their just distribution and technical efficiency.

2- The State should undertake all the necessary steps to promote the security of the citizen for himself and for his family, both for the present and the future. This can be realized through legislative measures for social security and social assistance, for the aged, the disabled, the sick, and all other categories of needy citizens.

3- Since education is one of the most important agencies of social cohesion and economic progress, the right of the individual to educational facilities should be recognized. The state must enact the necessary laws of compulsory (elementary) education for all children, with all corollary provisions adequate to the fulfilment of its obligations. The principle of equality of educational opportunities for all citizens; regardless of race, religion, sex or financial ability, must be effectively applied with all its implications and ramifications. Organized campaigns to combat illiteracy among adults must be launched on a nationwide basis for the re-education of citizens.

4- The provision of health services is one of the rights of the individual. This can be realized in a total health plan comprising two main aspects:

a) Public health, including the provision of safe water, healthy housing, elimination of refuse, etc., together with preventive medicine for the protection from endemic and epidemic diseases, the awakening of health consciousness and health education, especially in rural areas.

b) Curative medicine and treatment, including facilities for hospitalisation and clinics, training personnel at all technical levels. A plan for curative medicine could be realized through a health insurance scheme or the nationalization of medicine.

5- The Conference instructs the Secretariat:

To study and take the necessary steps, when deemed feasible towards the formation of a permanent body of medical,

pharmaceutical and social services for the Afro-Asian countries which would promote the continuous co-operation among these countries in the fields of medicine, scientific and technical findings and social services. This body will also be responsible for organizing conferences and seminars for the exchange of experiences and for the co-ordination of efforts in the fields of medical and social services in times of crisis and emergencies.

This body in collaboration with other Afro-Asian organizations could also concern itself with the co-ordination of medical industries. Such co-ordination will help these countries to reach some kind of se1f-sufficiency in the near future, enabling them to rely on themselves and to facilitate the mutual trade exchange of medical goods.

6- In view of the deplorable conditions prevailing among the Palestinian refugees who have been driven from their homes, the Conference calls upon the Afro-Asian countries to contribute material and social aid to those people, in full recognition of the solidarity of these countries, till the final solution to the Palestinian question is found.

7- Material and social aid is also urgently needed from all Afro-Asian Countries to alleviate the sufferings of the Algerians in their heroic struggle against French imperialism.

8- As hundreds of persons in Cyprus are deprived of their fundamental social rights in concentration camps and in prisons, the conference condemns these atrocities of British imperialism and calls upon all Afro-Asian peoples to show, in all possible ways, their moral and material support.

9- The Conference, further, condemns the atrocities inflicted by imperialism on the peoples of the Kamerun, Kenya, Chad, Madagascar, South Africa, Senegal, Nigeria, Uganda, Oman and other Afro-Asian territories and calls upon all Afro-Asia peoples and all other peace-loving peoples to rally in support of their fellow brothers.

Cultural Resolutions And Recommendations

Preamble:

Noting that culture is the fundamental principle in the life of nations, being the principle which awakens the conscience of man, strengthens his spirit, elevates his moral standards, betters his mind and opens up wide vistas in the fields of material, intellectual and spiritual production;

Noting that no civilization worthy of that name can possibly exist unless it is based on an underlying culture which nurtures it, develops it, renders possible its progress and enables nations to achieve, to the fullest extent, the ideals of peace, fraternity, liberty, equality and justice, as well as to realize their need for mutual understanding and co-operation towards the propagation and fulfilment of those ideals;

Noting that we understand by culture its most comprehensive definition which includes letters, the arts, the sciences and such other branches of knowledge whose function is to elevate the spirit of man, refine his taste and free his soul from evil and injustice;

Noting that civilization is a common heritage which no one nation can monopolize and to which all men have an inherent right, and that all nations should cooperate whole-heartedly to develop, enrich and propagate it to the utmost possible extent, so that all men, regardless of their race, colour, environment or religion may partake of its benefits;

Noting the important part played by culture in the promotion of political, economic and social solidarity;

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference:

1- **Reiterates** the. resolutions adopted by the Bandung Conference concerning cultural co-operation; namely that the Conference:

a) Calls for closer cultural co-operation and renewal of old cultural contacts in conformity with modern culture;

b) Maintains that the existence of colonialism in many parts of Asia and Africa hinders cultural co-operation and suppresses national culture; and

Condemns racialism as a means of cultural suppression;

c) Affirms that Asian-African cultural co-operation should be developed in the larger context of world co-operation;

d) Calls upon the Asian and African countries which are more advanced in their educational, technical and scientific institutions to give facilities for admission of students from countries which have not yet been able to develop such institutions.

2- **Recommends** that cultural co-operation should be achieved to the fullest possible extent through:

a) The media of information , particularly films, broadcasting, the press, publications and exhibitions; reducing the cost of their freight and abolishing customs duties on all articles connected with culture, education and information, with a view to facilitating their exchange;

b) The exchange by member nations of scientists, men of letters, artists, students and cultural and educational organizations, as well as the holding of periodical and **ad hoc** cultural conferences;

c) The encouragement of tourism by member countries;

d) The encouragement of translation to and from the languages of member countries, and the establishment in every member country of a planning body to co-ordinate the translation movement;

e) The exchange of cultural centres, and the holding of cultural festivals in which all the arts should be represented.

3- **Recommends** that a book, in the form of a historical and geographical encyclopedia should be written on the history of African and Asian nations and peoples, portraying their life, giving an account of their resources coveted by colonialism and explaining the contribution of every people to its national culture

and the part it played in the prosecution of its national struggle, with special emphasis on the disastrous results of colonialism and on struggle for freedom in modern times; and

Stipulates that this book should be written in conformity with the principles laid by UNESCO (I) for the writing of history with a view to strengthening the bonds of kinship among mankind; and to that purpose:

Suggests that a committee of Afro-Asian historians should be organized to draw up the plan of the aforesaid book and to undertake the execution of the work.

4- **Urges** the African and Asian nations to preserve their cultural heritage, both national and popular.

5- **Appeals** to the governments of member nations to advise the press, broadcasting systems and other media of information on the best possible ways to preserve the solidarity of Afro-Asian peoples.

6- **Recommends** that Afro-Asian Unions of scientists, writers, artists and educators should be formed, with a view to strengthening cultural co-operation among African and Asian nations.

7- **Urges** member nations and their governments to pay special attention to the encouragement of scientific research as an important factor in economic development in every sector of production, with a view, both to achieving their scientific and economic independence and co-operating with the rest of the world for the promotion of peace and prosperity through scientific progress.

8- **Recommends** that Afro-Asian governments should pay special attention to the teaching of the principal languages of Africa and Asia with a view to making them media of communication among Afro-Asian Nations in the future.

9- **Appeals** to Asian-African governments to grant scholarships

(1) See Addendum.

to Algerians pursuing their studies in their countries.

10- **Recommends** the setting-up of an Afro-Asian annual prize for cultural efforts towards the promotion of the ideals of liberty, independence, friendship and peace.

11- **Recommends** that the governments of member nations should spare no efforts for the abolition of illiteracy.

12- **Pays** tribute to all efforts, in all countries made for the use of letters, the arts and the sciences in the cause of peace and prosperity; and

Appeals to cultural organizations and intellectual leaders throughout the world to prepare public opinion in their countries and to bring moral pressure on their governments for the promotion of the use of letters, the arts, and the sciences in the cause of peace and prosperity; and particularly

Condemns the use of science for destructive purposes.

13- **Declares** that political and cultural freedom which renders possible thought, expression, cultural exchange and scientific research is essential to the progress of the human spirit; and

Condemns any infringement of that freedom in any part of the world.

14- **Urges** writers of member countries to take an active part in the second conference of Afro-Asian writers to be held at Tashkund in the Autumn of 1958.

15- **Recommends** that greater facilities should be provided for the admission of students from Algeria and Palestine and from all other countries struggling for their independence and liberty, to schools, universities and higher institutes of Africa and Asia.

16- **Condemns** the closing of schools, the deportation of teachers and imprisonment of students in all countries struggling for their independence and liberty as arbitrary measures which impede the normal course of education and tend to change the mode of life in those countries; and particularly

Condemns the sad situation in Algeria and Cyprus;

Conveys to the people of those two countries, struggling for their independence and liberty, its warm greetings.

17- **Recommends** the revision of text-books in Afro-Asian Schools, with a view to removing incorrect information due to imperialist influence.

18- **Recommends** that all efforts should be made towards:

a) the co-ordination of school systems at all stages of education in Afro-Asian countries ;

b) the inclusion of Afro-Asian studies in schools syllabuses of member countries with special emphasis on their common problems;

c) the mutual recognition by Afro-Asian countries of the certificates and academic degrees awarded by the universities of these countries;

d) the conclusion of cultural agreements between Afro-Asian countries for the promotion of cultural co-operotion among member nations.

19- **Recommends** that measures should be taken by Afro-Asian governments for the establishment of an international university for Afro-Asian studies whose seat would be determined by mutual agreement among the governments of member nations and whose degrees would be recognised by all member countries; and, pending the realization of this idea.

Recommends that member countries should establish higher institutes within existing universities for those studies, or at least create chairs therein.

20- **Recommends** that greater importance should be attached to audio-visual education - such as films, pictures, broadcasts, etc., in order to eliminate illiteracy in Africa and Asia.

21- **Recommends** that co-operation for joint films should be created showing rising Africa and Asia in their various aspects, for instance, the subjects of Afro-Asian motherhood and childhood.

22- **Recommends** that permanent museums and libraries

should be established, and that they should be supplied with films, slides, pictures, musical records, etc., as well as the exchange of the various materials to enrich such libraries.

23- **Recommends** the promotion of joint research in the various fields such as the family system and the history of the Parliamentary system, etc. . . .

24- **Recommends** the exchange of names of persons and organizations working in cultural fields, in order to foster contacts between Afro-Asian nations.

25- **Recommends** that a permanent non-governmental organization should be founded in every member country, acting as an instrument of cultural co-operation empowered to implement the recommendations of the conference both independent1y and in conjunction with the government of that country.

Addendum:

The delegate of the People's Republic of China expressed his reservations as to the reference to UNESCO: " Noting that the People's Republic of China is not yet represented in the United Nations, the principles of UNESCO are not binding to that country".

Organizational Resolutions

The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Conference, realizing the importance of continuing and developing the work for solidarity, amongst the Afro-Asian peoples, resolves to establish a permanent organization to carry out the following tasks:

1- To implement and put into practice the resolutions and recommendations of the Conference.

2- To promote and strengthen the Afro-Asian Solidarity movements in all countries of the two continents.

3- To act as a permanent liaison between the Solidarity movements in the various countries.

The Conference resolves that this permanent organization shall be composed of:

A - Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Council (AAPSC) in which all the countries in the two continents shall be entitled to have one representative nominated by the National Solidarity Committees. This Council shall be convened through its Secretariat at least once every year and more when necessary.

B - The Permanent Secretariat of the AAPSC which will consist of one Secretary-General and eleven Secretaries.

The Conference resolves that till the next Conference meeting:

1- The head-quarters of this permanent organization shall be at Cairo.

2- The Secretary-General shall be nominated by Egypt.

3- The eleven Secretaries shall be nominated by the following countries (arranged alphabetically).

CHINA/ EGYPT/ GHANA/ JAPAN/ KAMERUN// SUDAN/ INDIA/ INDONESIA/ IRAQ/ SYRIA/ U.S.S.R..

4- The Secretariat shall divide the responsibilities amongst its members as it deems it necessary and shall be collectively responsible for the Work.

The Conference resolves that the Secretariat should take measures to publish a "Journal" at such regular intervals as it

considers it possible.

The Conference appeals to the peoples in all countries of Asia and Africa to establish "National Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Committees" where they do not exist, and to widen and strengthen the existing committees.

Financial Affairs

The Afro-Asian People's Conference considers it necessary to establish a fund for the running of the organizational bodies created by the Conference.

The Conference calls on all the participating peoples to contribute to this fund in accordance with their capacities. The Conference expresses its gratitude to the «Egyptian Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity» for offering to open this fund with the generous donation of 10,000 Egyptian pounds annually and providing the necessary premises for the Permanent Secretariat.

The Conference directs the Permanent Secretariat to prepare a budget in accordance with the amounts contributed by the various countries.

The Conference resolves that the Secretary-General shall take a special responsibility for the financial affairs, together with such other Secretary as may be appointed for the purpose.

Transitional Period

The Afro-Asian People's Conference resolves that the first meeting of the AAPSC shall take place on January 4, 1958 at Cairo.

The Conference requests all countries which are represented on the Permanent Secretariat to send their representatives to Cairo by March 1, 1958.

Till then, the Conference requests the Egyptian Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity to carry on with the work decided upon by the AAPSC and the Cairo Conference.

The Second Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference*
11th - 15th April 1960
Conakry – Guinea

Declaration

We, peoples of Africa and Asia, whose representatives have gathered here in this Second Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference at Conakry from April 11 to 15, 1960, declare our firm confidence in our moral and spiritual strength, arising from our solidarity and our determination to continue unceasingly the struggle for our national independence.

No imperialist machination can destroy the unity of the Afro-Asian Peoples in the struggle for national independence, freedom and progress.

At this vital juncture in world history, we proclaim our unshakeable resolve to play our positive and decisive role in shaping the destiny of the world of which we constitute the great majority, taking mankind along the high road of independence, liberty, prosperity and peace, putting an end to colonialism and imperialism, which have brought about injustice, destitution and ruin.

The Peoples of Asia and Africa have chosen their way to the realization of these aims, a way which is clear and precise. The first step along this way is the achievement of national independence. We are determined to destroy all obstacles along this road of freedom and ensure that there shall never be a return

* AAPSO Publications (Without No.). "Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement.

to the past.

The Second Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference hereby reaffirms its adherence to the great spirit of Bandung and principles of Bandung:

1- Respect for the fundamental rights of man and the prin-ciples and objectives of the United Nations Charter.

2 - Respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations.

3 - Recognition of the equality of all races and of the equality of all nations, large and small.

4 - Abstention from intervention or interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

5 - Respect for the right of each nation to defend itself, singly or collectively, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations.

6 - **a)** Abstention from the use of arrangement of collective de-fence to serve the particular interest of any of the big Powers.

b) Abstention by any country from exerting pressure on other countries.

7 - Refraining from acts or threats of aggression or the use of force against the territorial integrity of political independence of any country.

8 - Settlement of all international disputes by peaceful means, such as negotiation, conciliation, arbitration or judicial settlement, as well as other peaceful means of the parties own choice, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations.

9 - Promotion of mutual interests and cooperation.

10 - Respect of justice and international obligations.

We extend our hand of friendship to all men. Nevertheless long and bitter experience have taught us to discern our friends from our foes.

We, peoples of Africa and Asia, declare that we shall never at any price permit our national independence to be made a mat-ter of bargaining. The heroic resistance of the Algerian people is the

most eloquent example of this.

National independence implies the fullest control of our own rich resources and potentialities and an end to their exploitation by foreigners and a handful of monopolists. It means the end of the domination of colonialism over the peoples of Asia and Africa, the end of misery, discrimination and poverty and be-ginning of a period of equality for all.

Our struggle for independence and prosperity is at the same time a struggle for world peace. We, Afro-Asian peoples, who stand out as a solid force for peace, will fight with all our might and resources against military pacts, alignments and all other efforts which seek to destroy through a nuclear holocaust, all that the genius of man has created for the well being and pros-perity of peoples.

We have faith in the future of humanity. We have faith in the intelligence and wisdom of mankind. We are confident that a great era of peace and progress for humanity shall dawn despite all obstacles. In the realization of this new era of fraternity and peace, the solidarity of the Afro-Asian peoples in the struggle against imperialism and for the building of a new world shall play a more and more decisive role.

The Third Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference*
4th - 11th February 1963
Moshi – Tanganyika

General Declaration

We, the Afro-Asian peoples, who met in Moshi from Feb-ruary 4th to 11th, 1963, discussed the development of the Afro--Asian Solidarity Movement, the problems that confront our peoples and the international situation in the world at large.

We have been impressed with the genuine desire of our peoples to strengthen Afro-Asian Solidarity and co-operation on a basis of equality and in the noble spirit of Bandung, in the interests of the struggle for national liberation against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism. We have every reason to believe that our great Movement of Solidarity is soaring from success and from victory to yet another victory. At the same time, however, we are of the firm opinion that more than ever before we need to be vigilant and alert to the manoeuvres of the imperialists and colonialists who seek to sow seeds of discord among us, and to be on our guard against neo-colonialism in all its forms and manifestations.

Having reviewed the political, economic, social and cultural problems of our peoples, we are convinced that the most urgent tasks for all our peoples in the coming year are:

a) The intensification of the struggle against colonialism, imperialism and neo-colonialism.

* AAPSO Publications (No. 11)

b) Maximum contribution towards the speedy liberation of the unliberated areas in Africa and Asia.

c) The formation of a united national front in any one country that is not yet liberated and the co-ordination of action, amongst these different national fronts to make their struggle for independence more effective.

Since the convocation of the Second Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference in Conakry, a great many events have taken place in the Afro-Asian countries and the world. Afro-Asian and Latin American Peoples have scored many victories, both at home and on the international field. Independent countries have further consolidated their independence and no less than twenty one African countries have gained their freedom.

Imperialism is being defeated in all parts of the world and thanks to the continuous struggle of the peoples of Africa and Asia and all peace and freedom-loving peoples in the world, its end is now in sight. The battle for national liberation and sov-ereignty has gained momentum and reached such a stage that the imperialists have been forced into fighting last-ditch battles.

We declare that we regard it as the duty of our govern-ments, our peoples and liberation movements to render all possible moral and material support to the heroic peoples of those countries who are assailing the bastion of colonialism and im-perialism, and struggling for the liquidation of white domination and racial discrimination and we call upon these freedom-fighters and all the peace-loving people of the world to see to it that the year 1963 witnesses the final and complete collapse of colo-nialism which has afflicted Africa, Asia and Latin America.

We unanimously declare that the battle against the impe-rialists and colonialists does not lie only in the political field. Political independence is not an end in itself but a beginning. It is the beginning of a further and more difficult battle, namely, the battle for economic emancipation and construction. Great wealths are

lying at the disposal of our people, riches that have so far been exploited by imperialists, not for our benefit but for their own purposes. We are now becoming masters of our own house and we must see to it that it is put in order, we must also see to it that wealth instead of being used to satisfy the desire for power and prestige should be directed at the banishment of poverty. In this respect we call upon the peoples of Africa and Asia to cooperate and to put into practice the many resolutions passed by Afro-Asian conferences for economic co-operation and exchange.

We, the peoples of Africa and Asia, greatly believe in peace and are struggling against imperialist policies of war and aggression and for independence and peace among nations. The struggle for national liberation and national sovereignty is a mighty force for the realization of peace and disarmament. We are for banning the testing, manufacturing, stockpiling and usage of nuclear weapons and for the total destruction of exist-ing nuclear arms.

For the sake of reducing the present dangerous international tension and avoiding a general war, we support the prin-ciple of general and controlled disarmament and peaceful co-existence among states of different social systems.

We are convinced that within the family of Afro-Asian peoples all disputes and differences can be resolved by fraternal discussion on the basis of the principles and spirit of the Bandung Declaration.

Therefore we support the Bandung principles and urge Afro-Asian countries which have boundary differences to solve these issues through peaceful negotiations inspired by these principles.

In the firm belief that there is not such a thing as a friend-ly base in a foreign land and we call upon all countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America to strengthen the fight against foreign military bases, for we believe that no country is really free with the

presence of foreign bases on its soil.

We salute the development of friendship and solidarity bet-ween the people of Africa, Asia and Latin America who are fighting for the common objectives. We strongly believe that this development is an important factor in the struggle for the liquidation of imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism and the establishment of true world peace.

The Afro-Asian peoples desire freedom, unity and peace. We will devote our efforts for the achievement of these noble goals. Our era will go down in history as the era of Africa and Asia and we have every reason to look to the future with hope and confidence.

The Fourth Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference*
9th – 16th May 1965
Winneba, Ghana
General Declaration
The Winneba Declaration

The Fourth Conference of Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity, meeting in Winneba, Ghana, from May 9th to 16th, 1965, and attended by delegates representing 70 countries, including political parties, organisations and observers, speaks for the overwhelming majority of mankind.

The Fourth Conference expresses its grateful appreciation for the manner in which the President and the people of Ghana have extended their hospitality and resources to ensure the success of this Conference.

It expresses its thanks for the inspiring address with which Osagyefo, President Nkrumah, opened the Conference and presented the problems, aims and aspira-tions of the majority of mankind in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism and in their determination to defeat this enemy of mankind, and to bring peace and prosperity to all the peoples on earth.

The Fourth Conference realizes that it is meeting during a critical stage of the struggle between the mass of humanity and the imperialist forces who seek to maintain their system of exploitation by economic and military means. It meets when the neo-colonialist devices to rob the developing world of its material

* AAPSO Publications (No.14)

resources are being perfected to the point of surpassing the old methods of direct colonial exploitation. It meets when the emergence of forces of liberation in areas still controlled by the imperialists through corrupt regimes or colonial garrisons has driven the imperialists to open .military intervention in some parts of the world, and when it threatens to intervene with military forces to suppress all liberation movements and all wars of liberation.

The Conference rejects absolutely, without any qualifications whatsoever, the claims of the United States or any other imperialist power, that it has the right to intervene for any conceivable reason in the affairs of an independent state or in the struggles of peoples in any country to establish a government or social or economic system of their own choosing. The peoples represented at this Conference will oppose with all the power at their command any such intervention or interference in any part of the world where independence or national liberation is threatened or hinde-red by the imperialists.

This Conference affirms absolutely that only the principles of non-interference and non-intervention can make the principle of peaceful co-existence a reality which will be acceptable to the majority of mankind. Continued armed aggression and armed intervention by the imperialists as in the case of Vietnam, the Dominican Republic and the Congo are completely at variance with their claims that they are prepared to abide by the principles of co-existence.

On any other conditions, peaceful co-existence is meaningless, and can only hinder the struggles of op-pressed peoples for national liberation.

This Conference demands the immediate withdrawal of all the armed forces of the United States from Viet-nam and from South East Asia.

This Conference demands the dismantling of an imperialist bases in Asia, Africa and Latin America and an end to the

encirclement of the People's Republic of China, and all other states in similar situation.

This Conference regards the bombing of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the imperialist war against the people of South Vietnam as criminal military adventures which threaten to escalate into it a world conflict. In order to prevent this danger and to halt the aggression of the imperialists throughout the world, this Conference calls on the people of the United States to halt its war - mongers by decisive action.

This Conference calls on peoples everywhere to prevent their governments from lending material or moral support to United States imperialism in its aggression against the people of Vietnam. It calls on all peoples to demonstrate their implacable opposition to the war being conducted by the imperialists against the people of Vietnam.

This Conference denounces the intervention of the United States, Belgium and Great Britain in the affairs of the Congo Republic. It regards the assault of Belgian paratroopers in Stanleyville to have been an act of war against the Congolese people. It maintains that the South African, Rhodesian, and other white mercenaries employed by Moise Tshombe are an international mercenary force hired and paid by the imperialists. It regards the anti-Castro Cuban mercenaries who bomb the Congolese people from aircraft supplied by the United States as the hirelings of the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States.

It regards the imperialist support for the Tshombe regime in the Congo as an act of aggression calculated to consolidate the neo-colonialist exploitation of the mineral and agricultural wealth of the Congo and to establish a neo-colonialist bastion against the liberation struggles in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Angola and Mozambique.

The intervention by the imperialists in the Congo constitutes for

Africa, a threat, and for world peace, a serious menace which will not disappear until the victory of the Congolese patriots.

This Conference condemns the intervention of U.S. imperialism against the people of the Dominican Republic in its efforts to rid itself of a corrupt and tyrannical military junta, and to establish a democratic government. It calls on the United States to withdraw its marines and allow the people of the Dominican Republic to choose its own government.

It calls on the people of Latin America to put pressure on those governments which are collaborating with U.S. imperialism under the cloak of carrying out the policies of the Organization of American States, and to support the revolutionary Government of Cuba which is diplomatically and economically isolated by the puppet regimes in the O.A.S.

This Conference decides to extend its solidarity to the peoples of Latin America and to put into immediate effect measures in organising and consolidating this solidarity. It realizes that the peoples of Latin America have been subjected to interventions and assault on their freedom by U.S. imperialism for nearly a hundred years, such as we are witnessing in the Dominican Republic, and it regards the cooperation and help of the Latin American peoples with peoples of Africa and Asia, as a great step forward in the liberation of mankind.

This Conference regards the open armed interventions in Vietnam, the Congo, the Dominican Republic and Cyprus as the advanced stages of a process of intervention which is taking place in Malaysia, Palestine, Libya, Japan and other parts of the world where the imperialists have established military bases and political control. The Federation of Malaysia is an imperialist bastion constructed to threaten the security of Indonesia and to guard the imperialist interests in South East Asia. The other bases and regimes are maintained to threaten the Arab World and to secure the forces of imperialism, East of Suez.

The maintenance of these bases requires political control of the countries where they are established. Imperialism must therefore impose and support reactionary and corrupt regimes in those areas where it maintains its military bases. The struggle to dismantle imperialist bases and the abolition of military pacts is directly linked and, cannot be divorced from the struggles for national liberation. In the case of Taiwan, it must be regarded as a struggle against the reactionary clique of Chiang-Kai-Chek; in the case of Israel, as a struggle for the national rights of the Palestine Arabs driven out by Israel.

The Conference regards the struggle of the Palestine Arabs against Israel as a just and inevitable struggle against imperialism. In the case of Japan, the struggle to end U.S. military bases must be regarded as a struggle for democracy and social justice by the people of Japan.

The Conference supports the Korean people in their struggle for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and for the independence and unification of their country.

This Conference denounces the infamous and intole-rable policies of apartheid practised by the white settlers in South Africa and Zimbabwe, and the fascist rule of Portugal in Angola, Mozambique and "Portuguese" Guinea.

This Conference endorses the statement of President Nkrumah to regard the struggles and wars of the free-dom fighters of South Africa, Zimbabwe, Angola, Mozambique, "Portuguese" Guinea and other areas still held under colonial or foreign occupation as just and holy, inextricably linked with our own freedom.

The Conference agrees with the declaration of President Nkrumah when opening its proceedings, that all the wars, aggressions and interventions of imperia-lism, its maintenance of military bases in foreign lands and its support of cruel and corrupt dictatorships spring from, and are dictated by economic exploitation. They are now the instruments of neo-colonialism as

they were once of direct colonial occupation. The struggle for peace, therefore, and the struggle for political indepen-dence and human rights and our struggle against corrupt regimes like Tshombe's in Africa, like those of the military juntas in Latin America, like those of governments which encourage the exploitation of their own people by giving control of their economies to imperialist interests, can only be ended by ending economic exploitation as neo-colonialism has become the main instrument of economic exploitation.

The Conference hails the historical event represented in the Afro-Asian Economic Seminar of Algiers, and adopts the Algerian proposal to set up an Economic Organism for Study and Action within our Organisation.

The Conference asserts that the threat of nuclear war in the light of continuous imperialist aggressions demands the immediate undertaking by all nations to destroy all nuclear weapons and to dismantle and abandon all the means of producing nuclear weapons, above all, the use of such weapons by any power.

The Conference considers that the most effective way to lift the threat of nuclear war is by the complete banning of the use, manufacturing, stockpiling and testing of nuclear weapons.

The Fourth Conference wholeheartedly supports all Conferences and meetings which aim at closing the ranks of the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist forces in the world. We hail the Non-Aligned Conference of Cairo and the forthcoming Conference of Heads of African and Asian States to be held in Algeria in July. We fully support the IXth World Festival of Youth and Students and the IInd Afro-Asian Woman's Confe-rence to be held in Algeria in July and September, and the meeting of the Heads of African States scheduled in Accra in September. The imperialists and their agents are sparing no effort to undermine the September Conference and Ghana has been the subject of virulent attacks

and accusations. The imperialists are against the unity of the Africans, just as they are against the unity of the Afro-Asian and of all the anti-imperialist forces of the world. In the face of these continuing imperialist plots and manoeuvres, the Conference pledges its support to the efforts of the O.A.U. for the establishment of a Union Government of Africa.

This is why the Fourth Conference of Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity, finds it vital to strengthen and consolidate the unity of Afro-Asian peoples and of all progressive forces. In order to promote unity, we deem it desirable that all Afro-Asian peoples struggling against imperialism should be duly represented at every Afro-Asian gathering. This call for unity should be given the widest possible coverage. We are aware that the road is strewn with difficulties, but we are convinced that our cause will triumph: we know that it is only with the consolidation of our ranks and the unification of our struggle that we can succeed.

We are fully convinced and aware that ours is a wide popular Movement closely linked with all national revolutionary and progressive anti-imperialist forces the world over, fully aware that this is the natural state of things as dictated by History, by the common aims of the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racial discrimination, for full national liberation and independence, the safeguarding and establishment of world peace and economic, social and cultural development.

We are deeply convinced that solidarity between the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America is a historical necessity dictated by the common heritage and common aspirations. Since our meeting in 1961 in Bandung, we have always called for constructive action towards Afro-Asian Latin American Peoples' Solidarity.

The Fourth Conference has now taken a decisive positive step in concretising this broad mass movement of solidarity. The Conference decided to hold the First Conference of Peoples' Solidarity between the Three Continents in Havana, Cuba, on the

anniversary of the Independence of Cuba, 6th January 1966. The meeting of the preparatory committee for this Conference wil1 be held in Cairo, on September 1, to take the final measures of preparations for the Conference.

Long live Afro-Asian Solidarity!
Long live world peace!

The Fifth Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference*
10th - 13th January 1972
Cairo – ARE

General Declaration

The Fifth Conference of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, held in Cairo between the 10th and 13th January 1972, attended by 86 delegations from Afro-Asian countries, regional and international anti-imperialist organizations and from socialist countries, notes that the importance of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity movement has been systematically growing, in the common struggle against imperialist and reactionary forces of aggression and against racism and colonialism, for the consolidation of the economic and political independence of the liberated countries and for the promotion of world peace and friendship among peoples.

Gathering in its ranks progressive parties and popular organizations, the AAPSO carries out its activities in close fraternal cooperation with international, democratic, as well as national movements and organizations in all continents.

The years that passed since the First Cairo Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference were a period of most acute strug-gle between the forces of social and national liberation, on the one hand, and the forces of imperialist reaction, oppression and aggression, on the other hand.

These years were decisive for the revolutions of national

* AAPSO Publications (No.44)

liberation. The peoples of over 70 colonies and semi-colonies have been able to attain, under various conditions and in different measures, their national independence as a result of the collapse of the colonialist-imperialist system. More than fifteen hundred million people in these countries have rid themselves of slavery and oppression. The political liberation of the peoples of Asia and Africa unfettered their creative potential and brought them into the arena of active political life. At present the national liberation movement has proved to be one of the main forces of the world revolutionary process.

The collapse of the colonial system was made possible as a result of a new alignment of forces in the world. The victory of the anti-Nazi forces during the Second World War was of tremendous historic importance to the peoples of the colonial world just as for the peoples of our entire planet. Democratic forces were forged and strengthened in the flames of the anti-Fascist struggle. Socialist revolutions emerged victorious in a number of countries and a community of socialist countries came into being. The forces of national liberation were consolidated; great national forces emerged on the world scene and started their victorious march towards national independence and social progress.

These events were of world historic significance. The strengthening of the international system of socialism created great potentialities for a joint onslaught by all progressive and national forces against colonialism and imperialism.

A new stage has been reached in the anti-imperialist strug-gle of those peoples, who were able to build up independent states, for the reinforcement of their sovereignty, development of their national economy and culture and for the realization of international transformations required by social progress. At present, the liberation struggle of the peoples, in the arena of the fiercest battle between the forces of progress and imperialism. The crucial question related to the liquidation of the heavy

heritage of the colonial past are being resolved in this battle.

In this respect, the governments of Asia and Africa must shoulder greater responsibilities and reject completely the policy of subjugation and subordination to imperial forces, which constitutes a betrayal to the peoples' interests. It is important in this connection that the peoples of Asia and Africa rely on their own forces within the framework of genuine cooperation with the socialist countries and all other progressive forces, to achieve their development and progress. They must struggle for an in-dependent development and the liquidation of the bases of un-equitable exchanges between their countries, on the one hand, and imperialist, capitalist forces, on the other.

In their anti-imperialist struggle, the countries of Africa and Asia possess decisive potentialities such as huge hydro-carbides and mineral wealth, which help accelerate the process of de-colonization and the elimination of the chronic under-development in which colonialism has plunged them.

The AAPSO notes with satisfaction the determination of the Afro-Asian peoples to wrest their national wealth from the hands of imperialists which had plundered if for long centuries, thus weakening the economic potentialities of capitalism. AAPSO hopes that their exploitation may contribute to raise the standard of living of the masses, and improve the conditions of the strug-gle waged by Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Angola, Palestine and all other countries still suffering under the colonialist yoke.

Experience has convinced the Afro-Asian countries of the possibility of adopting the non-capitalist road of development. In many countries, the struggle for national liberation has actually become a struggle against feudalist and capitalist relations of exploitation. These conditions have provided a broad common ground as well as close relations of solidarity between these countries in the political, economic and ideological fields. We believe that the countries which have taken the path of

non-capitalist development constitute the vanguard of the movement for national liberation for Asia, Africa and Latin American peoples.

Revolutionary democratic parties are in the lead of the pro-gressive forces that have headed the non-capitalist road of development in a number of countries. These parties are pressing for a fulfilment of the tasks of the political and economic independence of their countries, for a liquidation of the position held by imperialist monopolies in these countries, and for the creation of an advanced national economy on the basis of the development of the state sector, as well as for overcoming the colonial heritage in the sphere of socio-economic relations, for a solution of the agrarian question in the interests of the peasantry and for a democratisation of the socio-political life in these countries. Experience shows that the fulfilment of these tasks calls for an utmost activisation of the popular masses, the creation of a powerful coalition of forces that would unite the urban working people, the peasants, youth, intelligentsia, the urban middle layer, the democratic army and religious circles, in short all the patriotic and progressive forces in every country. The entire nation can be rallied to the struggle for freedom and independence, for social progress in the country only be strengthening in every way the unity of progressive democratic forces in each country, by implacably struggling against all manifestations of chauvinism and compradore elements.

The close cooperation between the developing and the socialist countries in the economic, political, military, and other spheres is one of the main guarantees of their development and consolidation. The socialist countries are rendering disinterest-ed aid to the emergent Afro-Asian countries inspired by their common objectives and struggle against one enemy: imperialism and colonialism in all their forms, as well as their derivatives: racism and fascism.

In their turn, the developing countries, the national liberation movements in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, constituting a stream of the world revolutionary process, are making a weighty contribution to the common cause of struggle against imperialism and other manifestations of international reaction. Cooperation and coordination between the major revolutionary forces of our time create favourable pre-conditions for the creation of a front uniting all anti-imperialist forces.

In the vanguard of liberation movements are found those who have already launched a struggle to recover their full rights and sovereignty and to check the advance of imperialism.

Marching in the vanguard of the national liberation movement are the peoples of Indo-China who are courageously repelling attempts by world imperialism, spearheaded by the United States, to bar the peoples of South-East Asia from the road to freedom and progress. The Arab liberation movement including the Palestinian revolution, plays an outstanding role in the anti-imperialist struggle and constitutes a positive contribution to all the revolutionary processes in the Middle East and in Africa. The peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea (Bissau) are fighting, arms in hand against Portuguese colonialists.

Similarly, the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe, have taken up arms to step up their struggle against racist, and colonialist minority regimes.

The victories scored by the struggle against imperialist colonial system are great, but colonialism has not yet been fully liquidated. To this day, 35 million people in Southern Africa, in the islands of the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic oceans, as well as in the Caribbean Sea and Palestine continue to live in colonial slavery. The intolerability of the further existence of colonial and racist regimes is self-evident today. Mankind's conscience can no longer accept any compromise when millions of people are still vegetating under colonial servitude and are deprived of basic

human rights. The continuation of colonial and racist games is a constant source of international tension and conflict.

Neo-colonialism with its new methods of exploitation and plunder is the main obstacle on the road of the Afro-Asian peoples to full independence. Today imperialism, particularly in its neo-colonialist form is a combination of old imperialist methods of armed aggression and violent suppression of the national liberation struggle of the peoples together, with attempts at undermining this movement from within and at forcing the yoke of economic dependence on the developing countries. The armed aggression perpetrated against the Republic of Guinea is an eloquent example of this state of affairs. Imperialists are imposing on the developing states unequal treaties and military-political pacts curtailing their sovereignty.

Imperialist powers, particularly the U.S., the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Britain are making frenzied attempts to retain and consolidate the domination of imperialist monopolies over the economy of Afro-Asian countries by using these new methods and forms of colonial oppression. For the realization of these selfish aims they support racist and colonial regimes, encourage and whip up racial hatred and discrimination, tribal strife as well as try to set the fraternal peoples at logger heads, to discredit the disinterested aid of socialist countries to national liberation movements. They furthermore resort to political subversion, by implanting puppet regimes, trying to split the ranks of the fighters for freedom and independence as also for the cause of peace and socialism.

The aggressive intentions of contemporary imperialism are expressed in the most flagrant and vivid manner in the political course of American imperialism which in the past decade has demonstrated with particular emphasis its nature as world exploiter, international gendarme and enemy of freedom, peace and social progress. In an attempt to deal blows at the national

liberation movements and to split its ranks, American imperialism continues to wage the «dirty war» in Indo-China, and helps to suppress liberation movements in the Portuguese colonies and in the South of Africa.

In the Middle East, the complete, organic alliance between U.S imperialism and Zionism has turned Israel into a colonial base of aggression that threatens peace and security of all the countries of that region, thus maintaining the interests of monopolies in Asia and Africa. Such a situation constitutes a further threat to liberation and progressive movements and compels peoples and governments to devote all their potentialities to defence purposes to the detriment of economic and social progress.

But no intrigues by imperialists or their accomplices can prevent our peoples, comprising the majority of mankind, from advancing along the chosen road - the road of independence, freedom, peace and social progress. Whatever form it may assume, including that of neo-colonialism, colonialism is doomed to destruction and nothing can prevent its inevitable and final collapse. The example of the heroic struggle of the patriots of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, the resolute struggle of the Arab peoples against the Israeli aggressors that are supported by the United States, the new revolutionary upsurge of the liberation struggle by the peoples of Portuguese colonies, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Namibia fully prove that the forces of imperialism and their chock detachment- American imperialism-cannot change the alignment of forces in the world in their favour.

We ardently support the struggle of all the peoples for their freedom and independence, for democracy and. progress.

The Conference notes with satisfaction the resolutions adopted unanimously by its specialized committees which have dealt with the urgent topics on the agenda. It calls on member- organizations as well as anti-imperialist forces and organs in the world to exert their utmost in order to implement these resolutions.

In the present conditions of the development of anti-im-perialist struggle, benefiting from the already accumulated ex-perience, relying on cooperation with and support by the pro-gressive democratic forces of the whole world, the solidarity movement of the peoples of Asia and Africa determines the main tasks of activities in the years to come as follows:

- Further strengthening actions in support of the just struggle of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia against U .S. imperialist aggression in South-East Asia.
- Developing intensive actions with the aim of making the U.S. government fully and unconditionally stop the bomb-ings and other acts of war against the D.R.V., the provoca-tive actions against the peoples of Cambodia and Laos.
- Obtain de Jure recognition of the National Royal Govern-ment of Cambodia.
- The Conference holds that the attainment of a political settlement, answering the national interests of the people of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, is the only possible solution to the problem of Indo-China which entails the total and unconditional withdrawal of U.S. troops from Indo-China as well as the U.S. administration's respect for the fundamental rational rights of the people of Democratic Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.
- Full support for the struggle of the Korean people, for the reunification of their country through their own efforts without foreign interference and in full independence on the basis of democratic and peaceful principles, after forcing the U.S. aggressive forces to withdraw from South Korea.
- Full support for the struggle of the Japanese people to abrogate the U.S.-Japanese Security Treaty and to restore the Okinawa Islands.
- Support for the peoples of Arab countries struggling against the Israeli invaders and solidarity with them, in every way. The Conference resolutely condemns Israel's aggression on the Arab

territories it occupied, and declares that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East can be established on1y on condition of the withdrawal of all Israeli troops from Arab territories occupied in 1967, of ensuring the full legitimate rights and interests of the Arab people of Palestine.

Based on the respect of the sovereignty of the Arab people in all the Arab countries, their national rights and the integrity of their territories, the Conference condemns all attempts at violating the rights and sovereignty of the Arab people, declares the military occupation by Iran of the three Gulf islands and ex-presses hope that this problem will be amicably settled in the interests of the two peoples.

The Conference hails the formation of the Confederation of Arab Republics as a nucleus for complete Arab Unity and solid front in the struggle against imperialism and world Zionism.

- Support by all possible means independent African peoples, who are steadfastly resisting neo-colonialism and who give concrete help to national liberation movements. In this connection, the Conference condemns the treacherous imperialist aggression launched by Portugal against the Republic of Guinea on November 22, 1970; and congratulates the people of Guinea on their historic victory over the aggressors.

- Further political and material support for the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands who through a difficult armed struggle have liberat-ed vast territories in their countries and created a new life therein.

- Struggle for the international recognition of liberation movements in these three countries, the MPLA, the FRELIMO, and PAIGC respectively as the only representatives of their peoples, and the true holders of the de facto sovereignty of their respective countries.

- Support for the struggle of the peoples of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia under the leadership of the African

National Congress, ZAPU and SWAPO respectively, together with the struggle of Afro-Asian countries for freedom and national independence.

The Conference expresses its full solidarity with these coun-tries and unfailingly condemns the colonialist and racist regimes.

Intensification of the struggle against neo-colonialism in all its forms and manifestations. The struggle against neo-colonial-ism the most urgent task of our time, the prime duty of all anti-imperialist forces, of all participants in the movement of solidarity of the peoples of Asia and Africa. This struggle re-quires dedicated efforts by the peoples of developing countries both in the sphere of economic development and in the field of ideological struggle. The unity and solidarity of the Afro-Asian peoples, their cooperation and the strengthening of their friendly ties with socialist countries are an important and imperative pre-condition of a lasting success in this struggle.

The Conference expresses its appreciation for the resolution adopted by the O.A.U. on the need to mobilize all efforts to liberate at least one of the Portuguese colonies in the next three years. The Vth Conference fully supports the Mogadishu De-claration adopted by the Heads of East and Central African countries between October 18 - 20 and hails it as valuable con-tribution to the struggle of Afro-Asian countries.

Utmost assistance to the attainment of economic independ-ence by Afro-Asian countries by way of organizing an extensive exchange of experience of anti-imperialist struggle, of economic development, by way of assistance to the establishment of cooperation between these countries and of mutual assistance in the solution of such important problems as the liquidation of the sway of foreign capital, the nationalisation of the property of foreign monopolies, the solution of the agrarian question, the satisfaction of the needs of the peasantry, the development of

national industry on the basis of the development of the public sector, the all-round democratisation of public and political life, etc ....

Struggle for the preservation and consolidation of universal peace and the security of the peoples. The participants in the Conference support the efforts of the world public directed at easing tensions, at asserting the principles of peaceful co-existence, for general and complete disarmament, for the development of economic trade, scientific and cultural ties among the peoples.

As the unity of the anti-imperialist front is a pre-condition for the full success of the peoples in their fight against imperialism, we have to ensure, by all possible means, the realization and continuation of this unity.

The Conference ardently supports the international move-ment for European security, for creation of a system of collective security in Europe, Asia and other continents.

The Conference urgently underlines the urgent need for realizing the organic unity and the consolidation of anti-imperialist forces in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The Conference notes with satisfaction the restoration of the legitimate rights to the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and hails this development as a new victory for socialist, progressive and anti-imperialist forces all over the world.

- Further political and organizational consolidation of the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement, the expansion of its ranks by the inclusion of progressive anti-imperialist parties and popular organizations.

The Solidarity Movement will develop the more successfully, the more it will rely on the popular masses. Our Movement has considerable reserves in the strengthening of ties and cooperation with trade union, youth and women's organizations, with the patriotic quarters of the national intelligentsia with the peasant

masses, craftsmen, workers and with organizations representing interests.

- Further strengthening of ties and the expansion of joint actions with the international democratic movements coming out against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, and with all fraternal organizations.

The participants in the Vth Conference unanimously endorse the activities of the Solidarity Organization in the period since the previous Conference highly appreciate the support given by socialist countries and international public movements to the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization and to its vigorous actions, and also the Organization's cooperation with progressive international Workers movements and organizations. They also highly appreciate the support rendered by the progressive, independent states, to the activities undertaken by the Organization in implementation of its lofty ideals.

In this respect, the Vth Conference hails the 2nd Conference of Afro-Asian Women to be held in the People's Republic of Mongolia, in August 1972.

The anti-imperialist solidarity of the Afro-Asian peoples struggling for their freedom and independence is a pressing demand of the times. It is an integral part of the common struggle of the peoples or the world for national and social liberation, for universal peace and security. Final victory in this struggle can be achieved only on the basis of unity of action by all anti-imperialist forces.

The participants in the present Vth Conference of the AAPSO set themselves the task of attaining these lofty aims and appeal to all progressive forces in the world to make their contribution to the common cause of struggle of the people for freedom, independence, democracy and social progress.

The AAPSO Sixth Congress*
27th - 30th May 1981
ALGIERS - ALGERIA

Final Declaration

1- AAPSO 6th Congress, held in Algiers from 27th - 30th May, 1984, takes place at a crucial moment in the long struggle waged by the peoples of the world who are now, more than ever called upon to rally round the goals of national liberation independence progress and peace to confront the eminent dangers posed to humanity.

2- Inspired by the main principles of the Bandung Conference, and the Non-Aligned Movement the work of the Congress has recorded the continued development of the AAPSO in the permanent and effective defence of the just causes of the peoples of Africa, Asia and the rest of the world against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism, racism and Apartheid.

3- As the V1 Congress underlined the different initiatives taken by AAPSO as part of its task of enlightening world public opinion and mobilizing peoples, it has given the participants an opportunity to study the international situation and the various problems emanating from it.

4- Hence, the VI Congress notes that the situation which still retains the characteristics which gave birth to AAPSO, is still eliminated with an escalation in the grave imperialist menaces against independence, sovereignty, progress, security and peace.

* AAPSO Publications (No.124)

5- The Congress has also noted that imperialism, by multiplying the different forms of aggression, fueling world tension, instigating conflicts imposing a frantic arms race, and posing the menace of a nuclear conflagration to humanity, declares its firm determination to stifle the peoples' aspirations for freedom, progress and peace.

6- The VI Congress stresses, in this respect, that the phenomena resulting from imperialism are still the main preoccupation of our age and require further mobilization for their eradication.

7- Completing the decolonization process is still hampered by obstacles at a time of neo-colonialist penetration, multiplying hot-beds of tension and war and, a deterioration in international relations which has reached a critical point.

8- In fact, if the colonialist empire had faced bitter defeat in the past decades in various parts of the world, it still persists in some parts of the world.

9- The VI Congress has expressed profound preoccupation with the current situation in the Middle East which is fraught with grave menaces to the realization of peace and security.

The intransigence of the Zionist entity in its aggressive and expansionist acts, annexation and brutal political oppression of the inhabitants of the territories occupied by force, are in defiance of the international community.

10- The restoration of the Palestinian peoples inalienable national rights to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on the soil of their homeland, constitutes the fundamental condition for the establishment of just and durable peace in the region.

11- In this respect, the participants demand the U.S. and its allies to abstain from providing the Zionist entity with arms and extending political, economic and financial consolidation which enable it to continue its aggressive expansionist policy.

12- The participants strongly reiterate their indefectible support

for the Palestinian people's heroic struggle under the leadership of the PLO their sole legitimate representative, and reiterate their effective solidarity with them in the hard ordeals they are passing through and the tremendous sacrifices they are making to recover their dignity and national existence.

13- The Congress expresses profound sympathy with and total consolidation of the people of Lebanon in the ordeal they are passing through in their struggle against the Zionist occupant to safeguard their territorial integrity, unity and Arabism. In this respect the Congress underlines the decisive role played by the Lebanese national movement.

14- The 6th Congress firmly stands by the side of Syria in its confrontation of American imperialism and the Zionist aggression designed to impose domination and hegemony on the whole Arab region.

15- The 6th Congress considers that, the unilatera1 declaration of the so-called Turkish Cypriot Republic in the northern part of the Cypriot Republic which is occupied by Turkish forces, constitutes a violation of the right of Cyprus to independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and its status as a non-aligned state. This declaration aims at consolidating the interests of imperialism and NATO which use this island as a base for military aggression on the Middle East countries.

16- The 6th Congress strongly supports the legitimate demands of the Cypriot people.

17- The 6th Congress asserts its absolute support to the Libyan Arab People's Socialist Jamahiriya in standing against the machinations waged by American imperialism and denounces vigorously the terrorist operations attempted by American and Zionist stooges against the cultural gains of the Arab Libyan people.

18- The 6th Congress notes that Africa which had known the dark nights of colonialism, is still suffering from the evils of the

direct domination of neo-colonialism, Apartheid and racism.

19- The participants have extensively analysed the situation of the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and the frontline states who are all confronting the most violent forms of hegemony, oppression and destruction perpetrated by the forces of colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism backed by the political, economic and military support of American imperialism and some western states.

In this respect, the reactionary regime of Pretoria constitutes in its very essence a direct and constant threat to the independence and development of all the African countries.

20- The Pretoria - Tel Aviv axis, which is endeavouring to establish puppet regimes in the continent depending on the direct aid extended by the U.S. and some NATO countries, reflects the strategic goals of imperialism in the region.

21- AAPSO 6th Congress hails the heroic struggle waged by the peoples of South Africa and Namibia under the leadership of the ANC and SWAPO respectively and reiterates its unwavering material and moral support for the realization of their national rights.

The Congress hails the valiant struggle waged by the frontline states under extremely hard conditions against the attempts at destabilization and hegemony by the Apartheid regime.

22- The VI Congress is of the view that the persistence of the Western Sahara conflict constitutes a grave menace to peace and security of the region. It reiterates its firm support to the Sahrawi people in their struggle for their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Resolution No. 104 adopted by the OAU 19th Summit.

23- The VI Congress reaffirms the necessity of safeguarding the security and stability of the countries of the Horn of Africa by confronting all the intrigues and conspiracies of world imperialism and underlines the necessity of resorting to peaceful means to

settle all the conflicts in the region.

24- The VI Congress deplores the obstacles facing the OAU in its efforts to establish peace in Chad. It reaffirms the necessity of respecting the unity of the people of Chad and its territorial integrity in accordance with the principles of the OAU Charter, and on the basis of constructive dialogue away from any foreign intervention on pressure in order to achieve national reconciliation.

25- The VI Congress underlines the urgency of putting a prompt end to the colonialist presence in some sovereign islands of the Comoros Republic and the Madagascar Republic.

26- The VI Congress expresses preoccupation with the continued armed conflict between Iran and Iraq, both members of the Islamic nation and the Non-Aligned group. In view of the grave consequence of this war and its development, the 6th Congress makes an urgent appeal for the prevalence of reason and the spirit of responsibility in the higher interest of both peoples and their common struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

27- In Latin and Central America and the Caribbean, the US aggression and the direct intervention constitute a grave menace to the independence and sovereignty of the countries of the region. Cuba and Nicaragua remain the main target for the U.S.

28- Nicaragua faces every day aggression and attempts of destabilization. The people of Salvador is waging a heroic struggle against imperialist dictatorship and interference, Grenada had been the victim of brutal aggression from USA. The peoples of this region are under the yoke of brutal dictatorship from local oligarchies supported by US imperialism which continues to implement the anachronistic Monroe Doctrine to protect the interest of American monopolists.

29- In this regard, the 6th Congress of AAPSO expresses its support to the initiatives of the Contadora group, of the government of Nicaragua and of the Salvadorian patriots who aim at establishing peace in the area. It reiterates its support to the

struggle of the peoples in the area for the safeguarding of their sovereignty, the free choice of their political systems and for an independent development.

30- The 6th Congress considers that the multiplication of imperialist military bases and alliances, the setting-up of new arrangements for aggression such as the Rapid Deployment Force, the development of medium range missiles and sophisticated arms in Western Europe, in the Mediterranean and in the Indian Ocean, the production of massive destruction arms exacerbate the atmosphere of defiance in international relations and constantly feed the arms race, thus exposing the world to the risk of a nuclear holocaust.

31- The 6th Congress appeals to the peace-loving forces in the world to pool all their efforts in order to ease international tension, stop the arms race and establish denuclearized zones in order to dismantle all the military bases and secure the withdrawal of the foreign forces from all the regions of the world. In this respect, the Congress encourages the initiatives which aim at establishing demilitarised and denuclearized zones, particularly in the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean, the Gulf and the Arab Peninsula.

32- In this context, the 6th Congress fully supports the proposals aiming at holding an International Conference on Disarmament with the participation of all states as soon as possible.

33- In this respect, the Congress underlines the positive contribution made to the cause of strengthening of peace, freedom and independence of peoples by the Soviet Union and countries of socialist community. The Congress welcomes the peaceful initiatives of countries of socialist community and those by Non-Aligned movement directed at curbing the arms race, consolidating the trust among peoples and a peaceful settling of international conflicts.

34- The 6th Congress underlines the immense role of nuclear

technology for peaceful purposes and of the freed liberation resources resulting from disarmament to bring about the prosperity of all peoples and the socio-economic development of developing countries.

35- While the world is spending around 1,000 billion dollars on arms race, the developing countries are suffering from an acute economic deterioration with an abrupt drop in the rate of growth ranging from 5.6% during the sixties to 1.9% in 1982 as well as ever growing debts of some 600 million dollars.

Almost one quarter of humanity has shifted to the category of incomes less than the minimum subsistence level while 37% of humanity are still in the under-developed category. This situation is not due to a reduced effort on the part of the developing countries but rather due to the deterioration in the world economic situation.

36- Thus strong hit by the profound structural crisis of the world capitalist order, the developing countries are witnessing the ceaselessly broadening gap separating them from the industrialized countries. .

37- The refusal of the United States to open comprehensive global negotiations for the establishment of a New International Economic Order, the measures and restrictions imposed by some capitalist industrialized countries, as well as the new-colonialist exploitation of the developing countries and the multiplication of aggression on their sovereignty, explain the constant aggravation of the situation in the developing countries and the tragic situation of the LDCs.

38- The 6th Congress stresses its necessity of putting end to all forms of foreign domination and expoitation in order to create favourable conditions for genuine development. For this end, the Congress reiterates the sovereign right of states on their natural resources and to dispose of them for the benefit of their peoples within the framework of a path of development freely opted for.

39- The 6th Congress urgently calls on developing countries to intensify and develop South-South cooperation for the realisation of their collective self-reliance and the consolidation of their negotiating power vis-à-vis capitalist countries and for the setting-up of a New International Economic Order.

In This Respect

40- The participants in AAPSO's 6th Congress, having examined the current international development, believe that we are witnessing deep transformations in the general balance of world powers as a result of the growth of peace, independence and progress.

41- Nevertheless, the direct confrontation of peoples with colonialism, racism and Apartheid, foreign domination and occupation, neo-colonialism, imperialism and Zionism remain an indisputable reality of our age.

42- This reality is expressed in the prevailing situation in Asia where, despite the historic victories won by the peoples and the crushing defeats of imperialism, the latter has undertaken to redeploy its forces in an attempt to undermine the gains achieved by these peoples. In the Middle East, imperialism, Zionism and local reaction are joining their efforts to choke or even liquidate the Arab national liberation movement though this is fraught with the threat of a world conflagration. In Africa, the inevitable process of the emancipation of peoples continues to be counteracted process if not denied. In Latin America, imperialism, leaning on anachronistic theories is multiplying conspiracies and aggressions against the states' sovereignty and security and is participating in repressing the struggle of peoples in the region.

AAPSO VI Congress Appeals To

43- The Peoples of the World to mobilise their forces to express forcefully their rejection of an anachronistic system of domination imposed by imperialism and to struggle vigorously for the setting up of a more democratic and more equitable New World

Economic Order.

44- The consolidation of the Non-Aligned Movement as a dynamic factor, which assumes a considerable role in the contemporary international relations in favour of peace, cooperation and progress of peoples.

45- The capitalist industrialised countries, to start as early as possible the process of global negotiations, as proposed by the Non-Aligned countries as a means of achieving world economic revival while responding to the pressing specific needs of development in the Third World countries.

46- The urgent implementation of a special aid programme for the least developed countries particularly those affected by drought.

47- World opinion to stand against the frantic arms race and act vigorously in favour of a general and complete disarmament in order to guarantee the security of all nations and the establishment of world detente.

48- The peoples to mobilise their forces to avoid the dangers of nuclear holocaust.

49- The countries of Asia and Africa to abstain from resorting to the use of force in settling their differences and to adopt the paths of dialogue and negotiation for the benefit of the peoples, their sovereignty, their security and their progress.

50- The peoples of Asia and Africa aspire to build a new life, away from the exploitation, enriched by new colonialism and transnationals and mobilize their forces for building a happy and peaceful promising life for future generations. No force hostile to the aspirations of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America can stop the march ahead of the over-whelming majority of world population.

51- The last bastions of colonialism in the Indian Ocean, the Pacific, the Atlantic and the Mediterranean will be eliminated.

52- The PLO will triumph in its struggle and an independent

sovereign Palestinian state will come to light. Jerusalem, ultimately liberated, will illuminate world ideals of peace and concord among the peoples.

53- The racist regime .. the oppressing fascist white minority of Pretoria - will no further be capable of depriving the majority of the population from their legitimate rights. The ANC of South Africa will lead the way to victory.

54- Namibia will be liberated under the leadership of SWAPO.

55- The Arab Democratic Saharoui Republic, which reaped great victories, will take its position under the leadership of the POLISARIO Front in the community of nations.

56- In this respect, the delegates of the VI Congress of AAPSO pledge to continue their struggle until the realization of their objectives, namely;

- a world without war.
- a society free from exploitation, intervention and interference liberated from hunger, misery and disease.
- a peaceful humanity in solidarity.

The Seventh Conference Of AAPSO*
24th – 28th November 1988
New Delhi – India
Final Communiqué
On The Future Tasks And Strategy Of AAPSO

1- The 7th Congress of AAPSO met in New Delhi from 24 to 28 November 1988.

2- The Congress *recalls* that thirty years ago AAPSO was born in the surge of the national liberation struggles of the peoples of Africa and Asia and in the midst of cold war.

These struggles, the Bandung principles and the policies of the Non-Aligned Movement shaped the policy of AAPSO. The struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, racism, Zionism, all forms of foreign aggression, occupation, domination, interference or hegemony-con-tinues to guide its action in all fields.

3- The Congress hails the fact that the past three decades witnessed victories of the national liberation struggles of the peoples of Asia and Africa. The colonial system of imperialism collapsed and the peoples of previously depen-dent countries attained political independence.

4- The Congress, however, *takes* note of the continuation of the struggle for eliminating the last vestiges of colonialism. Hailing the steadfast struggles of the peoples of Namibia, Palestine, South Africa and Western Sahara for national independence and emancipation, AAPSO pledges to intensify mobilisation of

* AAPSO Publications (No.144)

Afro-Asian and world public opinion in support of and in solidarity with these valiant revolutionary movements led respectively by SWAPO, PLO, ANC and POLISARIO.

5- The Congress *takes note* that with the changes in the correlation of forces in the world, the ever-growing strength of the forces of democracy, socialism, peace and the adoption by imperialism of a new and more sophisticated strategy directed against the interests of the peoples of Africa, Asia and the world at large, AAPSO should exercise vigilance and work out its strategy to counter this imperialist strategy.

6- Economic independence of Afro-Asian countries has not followed political independence. The majority of the newly-independent states remain within the orbit of the world capitalist system with all the resulting negative consequences of their economy subjected to neo-colonialist exploitation of the western monopoly capital and .their transnational corporations. The conditionalities of the financial institutions like IMF and the World Bank retard, rather than advance, the development process. The existing unjust and unfavour-able international economic relations have their adverse effects on the developing countries which are characterised by sluggish growth rates, sharp decline in commodity prices which inevitably diminishes their income from exports, external debt burden amounting to more than $1,200 billion at the end of 1987, increasing gap between the developed capitalist countries and the developing countries, etc. The developing countries, where over two billion people live are not free from hunger, poverty, malnutrition and disease.

All the debates and discussions in various international fora - the UN, NAM, OAU, Group of 77, however correct analysis they might have made, have not as yet led to finding any satisfactory solution to the problems.

7- In view of the above mentioned, economic decolonization after political independence assumes its utmost urgency for the

developing countries and becomes the centre of attention. AAPSO has to address itself to this important task more than ever before.

8- Imperialism seeks to thwart the development process by various dubious means. While forced to reconcile with political independence, it refuses to abandon its reserve markets - the vast former colonial empires.

In order to maintain their domination over the economy of former colonies, the imperialist powers resort to all sorts of nefarious methods-threats, blackmail, intimidation, overt and covert interference in the internal affairs, destabilisation and direct aggression.

9- It is necessary that AAPSO enlightens and mobilises public opinion in the countries of Asia and Africa on this problem and undertakes activities vigorously to combat the neocolonialist strategy of imperialism and to ensure the success of the development process.

10- The world today is undergoing significant changes and becomes more interdependent and interconnected. A new process is being promoted for negotiation, mutual understand-ing and cooperation to find solution of existing problems and if temporary, to avoid confrontation and escalation of tension, efforts which are thwarted by imperialism. The role played by the people is essential to accelerate this process.

11- The process has its impact on the entire international developments and on the future activities of AAPSO as well.

12- The INF Treaty, the precursor of a break-through towards nuclear disarmament, is a significant step which encourages public opinion and popular movements for disarmament and peace.

13- Therefore the Congress *resolves* that further steps for disar-mament must be undertaken. The task of AAPSO is to ensure that this process is consolidated by mobilising the peoples, by creating powerful public opinion, by rallying all the strata of

population in the Afro-Asian countries. Disarmament is in the best interests of the development process of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The Congress however takes note that confrontation between developing countries and western industrialised countries has accelerated the conventional arms race, thus deepening the world economic crisis.

Permanent peace cannot be achieved unless the sources of anomaly are eliminated. The uneven distribution of global wealth and technology, the racial or other forms of discrimi-nation and foreign intervention are the main characteristics of regional problems.

14- Positive and concrete steps to resolve some regional conflicts through negotiations on the basis of the UN Charter and resolutions through the intermediary of the United Nations or through efforts of the parties concerned have either already taken place or are under way. The Congress *decides* that AAPSO has to continue to support this process actively. The concept of national reconciliation on the basis of democratic principles deserves the support of AAPSO and all democratic and peace-loving forces.

However, a political solution to regional conflicts should be sought on the premises that the principle of non-interference in internal affairs is strictly observed in the spirit of the defence of the right to self-determination.

15- The Congress supports the peoples who are struggling against foreign intervention and occupation as in the case of Lebanon and Cyprus and occupied Arab territories and elsewhere and likewise pledges to mobilise further pressure upon foreign occupation forces and their allies to terminate occupation and to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries.

16- The Congress earnestly appeals for more communication and militant solidarity with the peoples of Latin America and the

Caribbean especially with those in Central America in their just struggle. For a just and lasting peace free from all forces of foreign intervention or interference.

17- Taking into account, the new reality, the Congress *resolves* to orientate its strategy and future tasks in the coming period in the direction:

a) To finally eliminate the last vestiges of colonialism, racism, apartheid and Zionism; to campaign vigorously for increased solidarity and political, military and financial support for the Frontline states as well as support for the Africa Fund to enable the region to withstand belligerent acts of destabilisation and aggression by Pretoria.

Taking into account the intransigent nature of the apartheid system in South Africa which has resorted to tyranny, violence and aggression inside the country and in the sub-continent, to mobilise militant solidarity with and resolute support for the legitimate rights of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa to use all forms of struggles including armed struggle for the total eradication of this crime of apartheid.

To struggle for democracy and human rights in the countries of Asia and Africa;

b) To strive for economic decolonization and socio-economic development of the liberated countries of Africa and Asia, ensuring the sovereignty over their national potentialities;

To oppose the neocolonialist rule of developing countries by monopoly capitalist countries and international exploi-tation by multinationals to contribute to restructuring of the entire system of international economic relations on a just, democratic basis and to establish a new international economic order;

c) To popularise the concept of - Disarmament for De-velopment in the Afro-Asian countries through various ways and means;

d) To rally all strata of population in the Afro-Asian countries in the struggle to oppose the nuclear deterrence doctrine and other

major stumbling blocks to a nuclear-free world;

To struggle for banning and eliminating nuclear weapons and halting the arms race, for disarmament and strengthening peace. Disarmament in the conditions of a durable peace, of a nuclear-free and non-violent world might facilitate releasing the necessary financial, human and scientific resources required to overcome backwardness and to eliminate poverty, to ensure an independent social and economic progress of the liberated countries;

e) To cooperate with all democratic and peace-loving forces, irrespective of geographical boundaries not exclud-ing those social forces, who have different thinking, but are ready to work together for the common cause which AAPSO stands for;

To strengthen contact with, and mobilisation work among the broad masses of the Afro-Asian peoples so as to make AAPSO a real mass organisation;

f) To seek help and cooperation of research workers from different countries to assist AAPSO on specific issues and topics vital to the interests of Afro-Asian peoples, such as debt crisis, price of commodities, debt servicing, interest rates, protectionism, socio-economic transforma-tion, implications of scientific-technological revolution, etc.;

g) To mobilise world public opinion to exert pressure on the members of the UN Security Council to discuss the possibilities of all to accept the obligatory jurisdiction of the World Court.

h) To convene regional meetings of national committees periodically to exchange views and experiences;

i) To maintain proper and lively link between the Permanent Secretariat and the national committees as an essential prerequisite for an organic link and integral whole of the movement as such, to strengthen the role of national committees;

j) To actively cooperate with the Non-Aligned Movement and support its principles for non-intervention, equitable relations and respect for the sovereign right of all countries.

Solidarity With Nelson Mandela From the 7th Congress of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization

Nelson Mandela, because of your valour and dauntless committment to the noble principles for which millions of your countrymen, women and children sacrifice so much, your name has become a household symbol of unflinching dedication in every corner of our world.

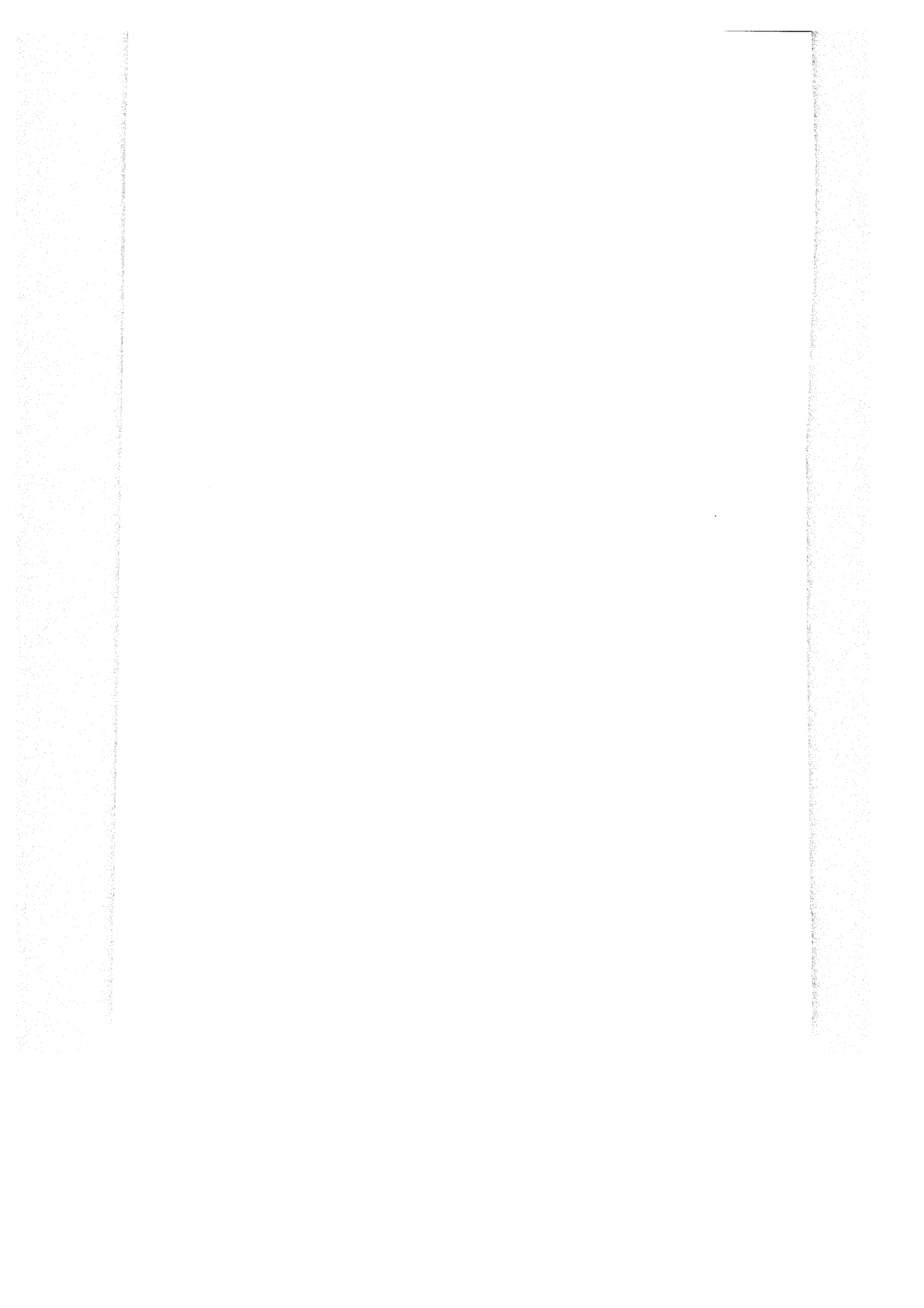
The words in the message you and the other comrades imprisoned in Pallsmoor and Robben island manage to send the world from time to time, remain a constant source of inspiration that always spurs us on to more resolute and determined efforts to struggle for your long overdue unconditional release from the clutches of apartheid, barharism and inhumanity.

The 7th Congress of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Orgnization (AAPSO) meeting in New Delhi, in this land of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru whose leadership bequeathed to the world the great traditions of struggles for freedom and human dignity, sends you our warmest fraternal greetings and wishes you full recovery from your recent illness imposed on you by the horrible conditions of apartheid.

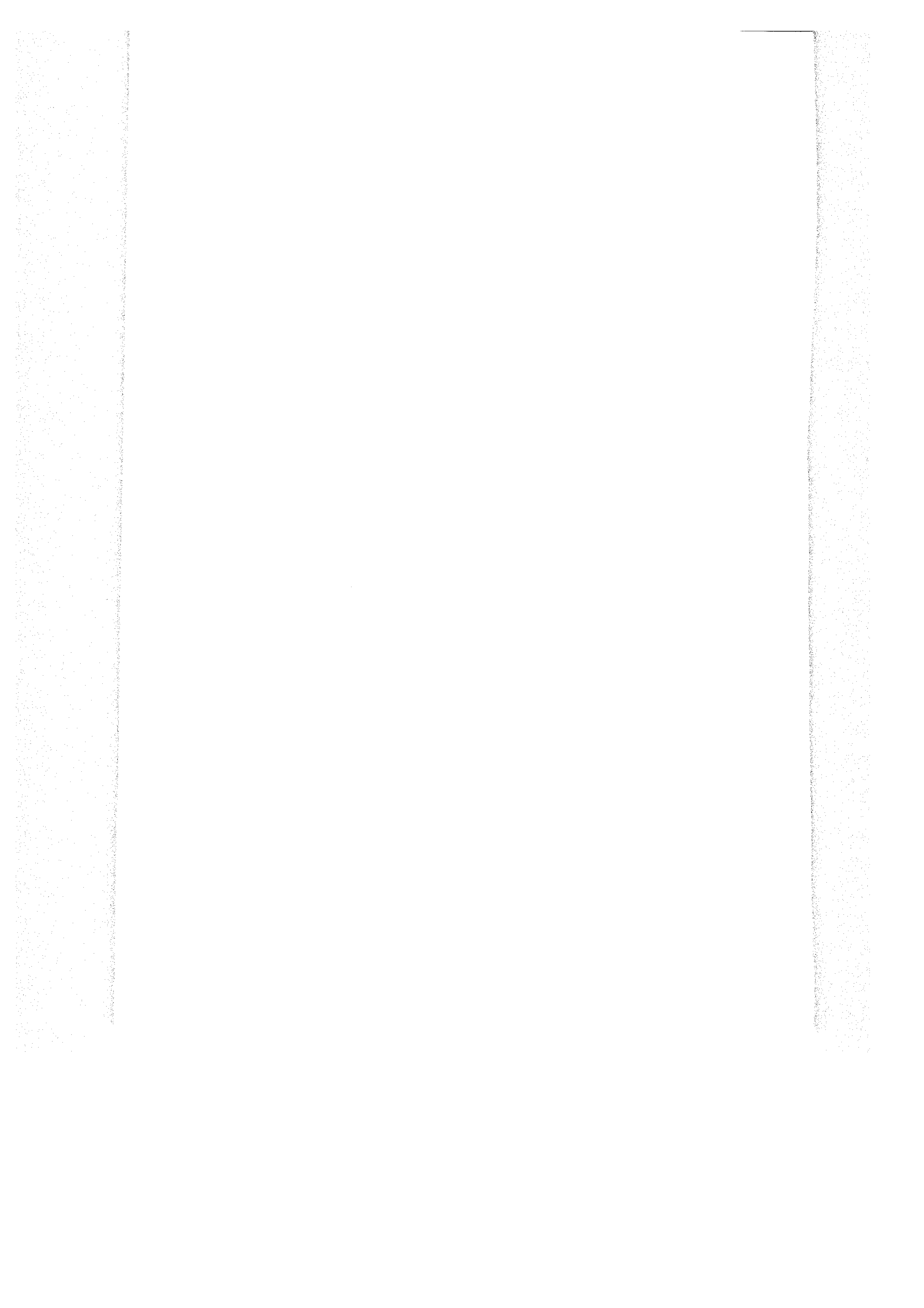
Your continued incarceation, though now in a disguised form, continues to evoke anger and indignation from all our affiliates and the hundreds of millions we represent and, no doubt, the rest of the world. Thus we assembled here, reaffirm our commitment to intensify the campaign for your total freedom and that of the many other political prisoners, of the Pretoria regime.

We are confident that your commitment and heroic courage will sustain you until that day when you as a free man will take your rightful place amongst your people and those of Africa, Asia and the whole world.

Long live the ANC! Long live the struggle for freedom Democracy and peace



(B) The Presidium's Meetings



The First Meeting Of The Presidium
8th-9th December 1974
Cairo-ARE

The Second Presidium Meeting Of The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization*
15th-16th May, 1975
Nicosia - Cyprus

General Declaration

The second Presidium Meeting of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation was held in the long-suffering and militant land of Cyprus on the 15-16 May, 1975, and discussed the most urgent problems of the international situation today.

CYPRUS

The Presidium expresses the solidarity and full support of the Afro-Asian peoples for the struggle of the Cypriot people against imperialism and its support for an independent, sovereign, unitary, demilitarised, non-aligned and territorially integral Cyprus. The AAPSO Presidium demands the full implementation of the UN resolutions on Cyprus, immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops; elimination of the foreign bases and the return of all resolution refugees to their homes. (A special resolution on Cyprus has been adopted).

MIDDLE EAST

The Presidium considers that the AAPSO's most urgent task is to promote the struggle for the achievement of a just solution to the Middle East question through the complete withdrawal of the

* AAPSO Publications (No.68).

Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories and the implementation of the national rights of the Arab Palestinian people, which will lead to the liquidation of the hotbed of war in the Middle East. The AAPSO reaffirms its consistent commitment to promotion of the struggle for political normalisation in the region.

This can only be achieved through the realisation of the legitimate rights of the Arab Palestine people to return to their homeland, to practice their right to self-determination and to create their own independent national authority.

The Presidium hails the wide recognition accorded the P.L.O. and stresses the necessity for implementation of the UN charter and resolutions concerning Palestine.

The Presidium considers the move of re-opening of the Suez Canal as being of benefit to the economy of the entire world.

The October war, which has proved the fallacy of the invincible Zionist racist superiority and Israeli security theories, has reaffirmed the ability of the Arab nation, its armed forces and the masses to lead the war of liberation.

The Presidium hails the determination of all the Arab peoples to secure a just solution to the Middle East question and their rejection of all unilateral and partial solutions.

It is now necessary to reconvene in the shortest possible time and on a well-prepared basis, the International. Conference on the Middle East in Geneva under the UN auspices with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation - the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine people - on an equal footing.

The Presidium stresses the necessity for positive concrete support for the mounting liberation struggle of the people of the Gulf zone and of the Democratic Republic of Yemen against foreign intervention and imperialist machinations.

We support all efforts aiming at the liberation of the Spanish-dominated Sahara, Sebteh, Melilla and the Jaaferia

Islands.

The Presidium categorically condemns the subversive activities and repeated statements of the American imperialist circles threatening intervention in the Arab oil-producing countries of the Middle East. We strongly support the oil-producing countries' full right to deal freely and unconditionally with their oil as well as every peoples' right to their own natural resources.

INDO-CHINA

The Presidium hails the heroic Vietnamese people on their historic victory which has proved to the entire world that in this era a people fighting in unity for their independence and enjoying the solidarity of anti-imperialist forces will win in the end. At present, not only the laws of social development, but the concrete correlation of the forces in the world and of the entire world political climate are on the side of those who are coming out for national freedom and social progress.

The Vietnamese people have won a great victory over U.S. imperialism and its puppet regime, thanks to their heroic struggle and sacrifices and to the support of the Soviet Union and all countries of the Socialist community and other progressive and national liberation forces. The Lon Nol regime in Cambodia has suffered a complete defeat. Reactionary and pro-imperialist forces in Laos are on the route.

The Presidium hails the victory of the FUNK and the legitimate government of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and entrusts the Permanent Secretariat to continue and to mount a campaign for the support of their anti-imperialist struggle and for the rebuilding of their country.

The Presidium condemns the U.S. attack on Cambodian Ships as an act of aggression creating new tension in the region.

The Presidium demands that the Vientiane agreement on Laos be strictly observed. We express our full support for the Laotian

people in building a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral, reunified and prosperous Laos.

The Presidium, entrusts the Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO with activating the campaign on collection of material means to assist the peoples of Indo-China to construct the countries' economy and to build a new, prosperous and free society.

ASIA

Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore are all striving to carry out their own independent course. They are trying to rid themselves of the foreign bases in their territories and are demanding the withdrawal of the American troops from their countries.

The AAPSO supports the idea of neutralisation of South-east Asia as a step towards complete liquidation of imperialist military existence in that part of the world. Favourable conditions for joint efforts in the name of peace and security are being created on the Asian continent.

Fighting against aggressive military pacts, concluding treaties for peace and friendship among themselves, demanding that the Indian Ocean be a peace zone without any military bases such as the U.S. bases in Diego Garcia, Msira and others so as to eliminate from the continent all vestiges of colonialism and to put an end to "cold war" the peoples of this region realize more and more that their peaceful future may be guaranteed as a result of the joint effort for the creation of durable peace and collective security in Asia.

The Presidium supports the popular movement against US military bases and pacts in Japan, Thailand and the Philippines. Peoples still under colonial rule, of Brunei and Timor must be liberated.

The Presidium wholeheartedly supports the 3 principles and 5-point proposition for the country's reunification by the

Government of the D.P.R. of Korea and demands the immediate withdrawal of U.S. aggression troops and abolition of U.S. military bases from South Korea, thus enabling the speedy, independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

The normalisation of relations developing after the Simla Agreement between India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, dismantling of U.S. and British bases in Southeast Asia, the prospects of peaceful reunification of Korea - are all positive factors which may ensure peace and security in Asia.

AFRICA

The participants of the Presidium meeting mark with great satisfaction the heroic victories achieved by the people of Guinea Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands, Mozambique, Angola and Sao Tome and Principe, in unison with the people of Portugal, against Portuguese colonialism. This victory has radically and positively changed the balance of forces in favour of a speedy and final liquidation of colonialism in the area and continent. It is vital to render material aid and practical support to Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Angola and Sao Tome for consolidation of their independence.

The Presidium meeting, aware of the desperate attempt by imperialism to substitute true independence by neo-colonialism in Angola, fully supports the just struggle waged by the Angolan people under MPLA and calls for concrete measures to safeguard their sovereignty and independent development.

On Zimbabwe, the Presidium re-affirms its support for the African National Council demand for immediate majority rule and the principle position that independence is not negotiable. We demand that the Pretoria regime withdraw its aggressive troops from Zimbabwe.

The meeting fully supports the struggle of the people of Namibia for independence under SWAPO and for the immediate

withdrawal of the annexationist troops of the South African Pretoria regime.

The Presidium supports the just struggle waged by the people of South Africa for national liberation. The international community must be vigilant and not be hood-winked or diverted by the manoeuvres of the South African regime to confuse world public opinion, to perpetuate racism and to continue the dispossession of the African people through the machinations of Bantustanisation of the country.

The meeting demands that the international community intensify its rejection and total isolation of the Pretoria regime, ratify the convention declaring apartheid a crime against humanity; and support moves to make arms embargoes against the regime mandatory. The meeting also demands, the release of all political prisoners in South Africa.

We deeply regret the bloody events which have happened in Eritrea. AAPSO believes that the new political conditions created at the present time in Ethiopia will open real perspectives for the Eritrean people for self-determination without interference from foreign imperialist forces and for the benefit of both peoples.

We stand on the side of the national forces for the liberation of the Somali Coast, Seychelles, Comoros Islands and other still-oppressed peoples of the continent.

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The whole progressive mankind is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the victory over German fascism and Japanese militarism. We extend our homage to the Soviet Union, to the Soviet peoples and to all the forces which had contributed with their heroic sacrifices, to such a great victory that has paved the way for tipping the balance in favour of socialism and democracy in the world. The AAPSO Presidium underlines that the victory over fascism has changed the international situation in favour of

peace and social progress; it has inspired the peoples of Asia and Africa to fight for their national liberation. The Presidium hails and supports the appeal of the Soviet Union in connection with the 30th anniversary of the defeat of fascism, which calls for efforts to create an atmosphere of confidence in mankind's peaceful future towards upholding a stable and lasting peace.

On the occasion of the celebration of the International Year for women, we fully support the struggle of women all over the world for equal rights and full social and economic equality. We call particular attention to the role of women in Africa and Asia, where women already play a prominent role in many areas in developing the struggle of our peoples. We fully realize the necessity for the complete participation in all phases of national struggle and the important role they can and do play in maintaining independence. We demand full social justice, for women and complete safeguards for their rights.

The Presidium supports the struggle of the Chilean people for their establishment of democracy and against the fascist, terrorist regime, and supports the struggle of the Latin American peoples against neo-colonialism.

The Presidium notes that, thanks to the persistent struggle of the whole progressive mankind, including the Afro-Asian peoples, international relations have shown a fundamental turn from the policy of "cold war" to détente and peaceful co-existence of state with different social systems.

The threat of thermo-nuclear catastrophe has weakened the perspective of the preservation of peace has become wider.

The relaxation is creating favourable conditions for the activation of the struggle for the progress of peoples and the development of the national liberation movement.

The Portuguese colonial regime in Africa has collapsed. The struggle of the Arab peoples against Israeli imperia1ist aggression has gained great momentum. Zionist and aggressive Israeli rulers

are being increasingly isolated. The peoples of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos have scored great victories.

But despite the successes of the national liberation forces and of partisans of peace and progress, the imperialist, colonialist, neo-colonialist and racist forces have not laid down their arms. They are suffering one defeat after another, but their aggressive nature has not changed. In a number of places in the world there is still aggression and oppression as in the case of the Middle East, Cyprus, Chile, South Africa, South Korea, etc.

The events in Indo-China and in Africa have shown that the period of imperialist domination in Asia and Africa is ending.

New perspectives open up for the two continents which constitute a decisive sector in the world anti-imperialist front for the forward march toward freedom, justice, dignity and world peace.

The Third Meeting Of The AAPSO Presidium*
19th-20th January, 1976
Aden – PDRY,

General Declaration

The Third Session of the AAPSO Presidium was held in Aden, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, on January 19-20, 1976 and was attended by members of the Presidium and the Permanent Secretariat as well as by representatives of associate member Solidarity Committees in the Socialist countries, solidarity movements of a number of African countries, and international democratic organisations.

The meeting discussed highly significant issues in the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement, particularly during the period since the Organisation's 12th Council, held in Moscow in September 1975.

The participants assert that the past period was marked by renewed victories of the anti-imperialist progressive forces as regards the reinforcement of the International movement for national liberation and the establishment of the policy of international detente. It was also marked by the general victory of the forces of peace, liberation and democracy against the forces of imperialism, reaction and aggression.

The attendants noted with great concern the development of the situation in the People's Republic of Angola and the plots schemed by world and U.S. imperialism as well as the reactionary

* AAPSO Publications (No.78)

forces in Africa, particularly the racist regime in South Africa, sworn enemy of the African peoples, in a bid to foil the independence of Angola and to strike the experienced leadership of the Angolan people, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).They are trying to do so through the encouragement of international pro-imperialist groups which were identified with the enemies of the Angolan people. The meeting, while stating absolute support for the MPLA and its Chairman Comrade Agostinho Neto, strongly condemns the international pro-imperialist groups, the racist regime of South Africa, U.S. imperialism, NATO and their partners who seek the subordination of the Angolan people to neo-colonialist domination.

The AAPSO Presidium urges all countries, who have not yet done so, to recognize the People's Republic of Angola under the leadership of MPLA, as well as calls upon the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations to seek the recognition of the People's Republic of Angola.

The Presidium calls for speedy unconditional withdrawal of all imperialist foreign and South African troops backing the internal pro-imperialist groups.

The meeting expresses support and consolidation of the young African republics in Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe and appeals to all world progressive forces to support and reinforce social and economic development, and progress in these countries.

The meeting condemns the racist regimes in South Africa, Namibia and Mozambique as a disgrace to the African Continent.

It reaffirms once more full support for the liberation movements, The African National Congress Party of South Africa, the SWAPO of Namibia, and the African National Council of Zimbabwe.

The meeting also strongly condemns racial discrimination and calls upon the Permanent Secretariat to step up during the forthcoming period, the world drive for the eradication of racism.

The meeting also considers with great concern the development of the situation in Lebanon posing a great challenge to the whole Arab national liberation movement. It deems the incidents in this Arab country part of the imperialist conspiracy designed to strike the Palestinian resistance and create conditions helping Israel to break its isolation and providing it with new chances and possibilities to continue its aggression on the Arab countries. It also aims at creating larger opportunities for Arab reaction backed by imperialist circles, to close its grip on the area, paralyse the movement of the progressive Arab regimes and strike the detachments of Arab liberation movement.

The meeting declares its absolute support for the courageous Palestinian resistance movement, and considers that the support to, and victory of this movement is a great victory for the Arab liberation movement and the world progressive forces.

The peoples of the Arab countries which have suffered from the Israeli aggression are persistent in their struggle for the establishment of a just and permanent peace in the Middle East. As a result of the struggle of the Palestinian people and the other progressive Arab forces, and of the active development of the wide-world solidarity with Arab peoples, the isolation of the Israeli aggressors, supported by imperialism and world Zionism, is becoming more marked than ever.

The Presidium reaffirms its absolute support for the struggle of the Palestinian people as well as other Arab peoples, for full liberation of the occupied territories and complete restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people, particularly its right to self-determination on its homeland and the establishment of its independent national state on any liberated part of its land.

The meeting supports, as well, the U.N. resolution condemning Zionism as a racial ideology. This resolution is considered an international triumph for the Palestinian people whose land and rights were usurped by Zionism. The meeting calls upon the

Permanent Secretariat to intensify its world propaganda and activities towards the condemnation of Zionism and the exposure of its racist objectives as well as its imperialist ties.

The meeting believes that the current Security Council debate on the Palestinian question should urge all progressive forces to support the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and recognize the lawful national rights of the Palestinian people.

The Presidium expresses appreciation and support for the prominent role played by the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in backing the anti-imperialist movements and the Arab and international national liberation movement.

The participants believe that the Yemeni Democratic Republic could only play this progressive role if the forces of progress, peace and democracy continue their political, moral and material support while exposing the conspiracies schemed against it, and denouncing military attacks against its borders and people.

The Presidium meeting expresses support for the struggle of the Omani people against imperialist domination as well as against reactionary regimes in the area, and pronounced support for the heroic struggle waged by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman.

The meeting supports the struggle of the Eritrean people for obtaining its national democratic rights within a framework safeguarding the interests of both the Ethiopian and the Eritrean peoples.

The Presidium expresses as well its support of the struggle of the people of the Somali Coast for independence and liberty.

The Presidium meeting calls upon the Sudanese government to set free political detainees, return the dismissed to their jobs, stop expulsion from work for political affiliation and release trade unionist freedoms.

The Presidium supports previous AAPSO resolutions

concerning the Sahara as well as congratulates the people of the Sahara on the evacuation of the Spanish troops and end of Spanish colonialism. It appeals to all concerned parties to settle the Sahara question by peaceful means so as to guarantee the rights of the Sahara people in a way that reinforces the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist and anti-reactionary forces in this region.

The imperialist plot against the Arab liberation movement extends to North Africa. Hence, the Algerian Revolution is exposed to imperialist and reactionary confrontations designed to block progressive transformations in Algeria.

The Presidium supports the struggle of the Moroccan people and its progressive forces for the restoration of all its territories still under Spanish colonialism, Ceuta, Melilla and Jaafarine Islands, as well as backs its fight for the construction of a liberated democratic Morocco where justice and equality prevail.

The session expresses great concern for the continuing aggression and occupation in Cyprus, as well as insists on the necessity for the immediate implementation of the U.N. resolutions and calls for practical measures to put pressure on Turkey for the implementation of the U.N. resolutions. It condemns all unilateral actions, such as the declaration of a so-called Turkish federated state, and any effort of colonisation and demographic restructure. It firmly supports a solution securing an independent, unitarian, demilitarized, non-aligned, territorially integral Cyprus.

The Presidium hails the emergence of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos and the endorsement of the new democratic constitution of the Cambodian government as, well as the current process of unification of the two Vietnams, which issues have become vital factors of peace in Asia.

A new position has emerged in Asia consolidating the posts of peace and non-alignment as well as reinforcing collective security there. The masses drive in Japan against military bases is

escalating while the demand for turning the Indian Ocean into a demilitarized zone of peace, free of aggressive military bases, has become a popular demand backed by the majority of the Continent's countries regardless of the nature of their social systems.

The meeting notes with concern the indulgence in arms area and stockpilling of deadly weapons including nuclear weapons, by the imperialist countries. The imperialists, especially the U.S. imperialists are dumping arms in their client states, that which is posing a great challenge to the peace-loving countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as to world peace.

Hence, this meeting strongly condemns this arms race and dumping of arms, and whole heartedly supports the New Stockholm Appeal of the World Peace Council for stopping arms race and destruction of all nuclear weapons.

The AAPSO Presidium fully supports the people of Timor led by FRETILIN, in their struggle for national liberation. We demand immediate withdrawal of Indonesian military troops from Timor to let the people of Timor shape their own future.

The meeting strongly supports the draft submitted by the Democratic Republic of Korea for the peaceful reunification of both Koreas while it condemns U.S. imperialism which impedes these efforts and calls for the evacuation of the imperialist U.S. forces from South Korea.

The AAPSO Presidium extends its full support to the people of Chile in their struggle against the criminal fascist regime and for restoration of complete democracy and people's rule.

The Third Session of the AAPSO Presidium meeting carefully records the increasing role of the Socialist countries, notably, the Soviet Union, the forces of international liberation movement and of democracy in the capitalist world, in changing the face of the world in favour of liberation, independence, democracy and social progress.

The meeting urges, as well, for the reinforcement and expansion of the international detente policy and the intensification of the policy of peaceful co-existence between countries of different social systems and draws attention the need to achieve complete disarmament and limitation of strategic arms.

Our experience proved anew the importance of the conclusions reached by our Organisation. The struggle for international detente and disarmament reinforces the grounds of struggle against imperialism and capitalism, and this struggle, in turn, steps up the cause of international detente.

The Third Presidium Session approves the report of the Permanent Secretariat on its overall activities as expresses satisfaction of the efforts exerted by the Permanent Secretariat towards the application of the 12th Council resolutions and the reinforcement of the struggle of the peoples of Asia and Africa.

The Fourth Meeting Of The AAPSO Presidium* 27th – 30th July 1976 Brazzaville – People's Republic of Congo

General Declaration

The Fourth Session of AAPSO Presidium was held in Brazzaville, capital of the People's Republic of the Congo, on July 27 - 30, 1976.

Besides members of the Presidium and the Permanent Secretariat, this session was attended by representatives of many countries, African liberation movements, associate members in the socialist countries and world democratic organizations.

The current Presidium session discussed highly significant issues for the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement and the whole situation of the world progressive revolutionary movement, particularly during the period since the third Presidium meeting held in Aden in the Democratic People's Republic of Yemen, January 1976.

The participants in this session note with satisfaction the ever-increasing anti-imperialist struggle and the consolidation and onward advance of the world national liberation movement in different countries and continents despite the violent and stormy confrontation with imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and Zionism. They also note the reinforcement of peaceful coexistence, detente and the sincere efforts to achieve a complete and comprehensive disarmament and the general relaxation of the

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international tension. Such an atmosphere can create favourable conditions for the success of the world national liberation movement in general and in Africa and Asia in particular, the victory of the democratic forces in the capitalist world and the increasing power of the socialist countries.

Our current session re-emphasizes the importance of the unity of the world revolutionary process represented in the world national liberation movement, the socialist countries, the democratic movement in the capitalist world and the world national liberation movement and reaffirms that the Afro-Asian solidarity movement is an integral part of this revolutionary process and that the unity of these forces can deal the heaviest blows to world imperialist forces.

The fourth Session of AAPSO Presidium noted with satisfaction that the liberation of the newly independent African states has been consolidated, especially Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde and Sao Tome islands and Principe and Seychelles. We consider that the victory of the People's Republic of Angola, its independence and triumph over the pro-imperialist internal secessionist forces constitute a heavy blow to the world imperialism, particularly the USA imperialists and the South African racists.

The Presidium meeting condemns the USA attitude to deprive the People's Republic of Angola of its right to occupy any place in the U.N. and calls upon all African, Asian, socialist and non-aligned states to continue the struggle for the admission of the People's Republic of Angola to the U.N.

The meeting hails AAPSO's international extraordinary conference, February 1976, for solidarity with the Angolan people and the MPLA under the leadership of Comrade Agostinho Neto. In its view, this conference has been entirely important in mobilizing the world public opinion in general, and the African in particular, to support Angola in realizing its national sovereignty.

This meeting of the Fourth Presidium condemns the racist and reactionary regimes of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe for their continued policy of racism and apartheid against the majority in defiance of the U.N. resolutions, the world public opinion and the principles of the Declaration of Human Rights.

The meeting condemns the racist regime of Ian Smith and its repression of the African majority in Zimbabwe. The meeting further calls for the diplomatic and economic isolation of the Rhodesian regime. The Presidium calls for support of the intensification of the armed liberation struggle by the people of Zimbabwe to ensure the immediate transfer of power from the minority to the majority.

The Presidium condemns the 'Bantustan' system planned to be carried out by the racist and colonialist regime in South Africa and demands the majority rule in South Africa. It also condemns the occupation by the South African troops of Namibia, and demands their immediate withdrawal and the independence of this African country.

The meeting strongly condemns the brutal massacre committed by the South African racists against the African majority at Soweto and declares its complete solidarity with the struggle of the people of South Africa to select the language of their choice for their educational system and defend their rights against the ruling racist minority. The meeting supports the resolutions of the Havana conference organized by the U.N. to struggle against apartheid, especially regarding arms embargo, economic and cultural boycott and supports isolation of the racist states of Southern Africa.

The Presidium declares its unconditional support to and solidarity with the heroic struggle waged by the liberation movements of African National Congress of South Africa, SWAPO of Namibia, the African National Council of Zimbabwe, and to the struggle of the progressive forces in Lesotho under the leadership of Basutholand Congress Party against oppression and fascist

measures prevailing in this country, and takes upon itself to extend to them all forms of support and solidarity in their just and heroic struggle. The Presidium condemns the US neo-colonialist attempts to dilute the African struggle in a bid to prolong the life span of the racist regimes.

The Presidium considers the convening of the World Conference by the AAPSO to condemn racism and apartheid and in support of the liberation movements in Southern Africa of absolute importance and entrusts the Permanent Secretariat with the task of holding it.

The Presidium declares its support to the struggle of Somali Coast people for its liberation and independence.

The meeting notes the dangerous deterioration of the situation in the Middle East region, especially in Lebanon, where a perilous imperialist conspiracy is being carried out to liquidate the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese patriotic movement with a view to striking the Arab national liberation movement and restructuring the region in the interest of imperialism and Israel. It is regrettable that the Syrian military intervention resulted in the consolidation of the Lebanese reactionary and isolationist forces and weakening and jeopardizing the Palestinian resistance.

The Presidium demands Syria to respond to the unanimous Arab public opinion particularly, and the international progressive public opinion, in general, and immediately withdraw its troops from the Lebanese territories to enable the different Lebanese forces and parties to hold a round-table meeting to put an end to the conflict in Lebanon and enable Elias Sarkis, the Presidium-elect of the Republic, to perform his constitutional tasks.

The machinations of imperialism of Israel and of the Arab reactionary forces have led to a bloody fratricidal war among Arabs. All efforts should be made to put an immediate end to the bloodshed in Lebanon and to all imperialist attempts of

interference in Lebanon.

The meeting declares its support of the resolutions of the Arab People's Conference held in Baghdad last June for Solidarity with the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanon patriotic movement and also declares its support to the Permanent Secretariat of the Conference.

The Presidium confirms its support of the heroic struggle of the Palestinian resistance, condemns the attempts to liquidate and minimize it, and considers that any victory scored by it is an important enrichment of the assets of the Arab liberation movement and the world progressive forces. The Presidium also supports the struggle of the Arab people and the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, its sale legitimate representative, to liberate all the occupied Arab territories, realize the rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right to self-determination on their land, set up their national independent state on all liberated parts of their homeland. The Presidium calls for the reinforcement of the struggle against the Israeli aggressors and against Zionism which was condemned by the U.N. as a form of racism. It also condemns the brutual aggression on the sovereignty of Africa as a whole and the territorial integrity of an African state during the treacherous attack by the Zionist gangs on Entebbe airport.

The Fourth Presidium of AAPSO condemns the growing dangerous USA-Pretoria and Tel Aviv axis directed against African and Arab peoples in general and South African and Palestinian Liberation Movements in particular.

The meeting declares its support to the heroic struggle waged by the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman and the Bahraini Liberation Front for independence, liberation, democracy and Social progress. It calls for safeguarding the democratic freedoms in the Arab countries in support of the struggle of the Arab liberation movement.

The Presidium asks the Permanent Secretariat to further study and confirms the decision of the Permanent Secretariat to send a delegation to Western Sahara for fact-finding on the claim of POLISARIO of the self-determination and independence of the Saharaoui people.

The Presidium recommends the Permanent Secretariat to take the necessary constitutional measures to consider the application of POLISARIO to the membership of AAPSO.

The Presidium supports and welcomes the unification of Vietnam and hails the establishment of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. We consider the victory of the Peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia a far-reaching victory for the anti-imperialist liberation movement in Asia and all over the world.

The Presidium stresses the necessity of allowing the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to have its rightful place in the U.N.

It calls upon all countries, and all democratic, freedom and peace-loving forces to contribute to the reconstruction of this militant country and the consolidation of its independence. It supports the demand of the Vietnam people who claim that the United States honour its commitment to heal the wounds of war and to reconstruct Vietnam that has been devastated by the U.S. war of aggression.

The Presidium supports the national liberation movement in Timor under the leadership of FRETILIN in its struggle to freely form its future without any foreign pressure or occupation.

The Third World countries have been deprived to this day of their proper and adequate representation in the various organs and specialized agencies of the U.N. The Presidium supports the demand of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America for a stronger representation in the U.N., in its specialized agencies and above all in the Security Council, so that they may more effectively contribute to the maintenance of peace and international security.

The meeting supports all the efforts exerted to consolidate

peace in Asia and make the Indian Ocean a region free from aggressive military bases.

The Presidium supports the rising popular demands in Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, and Seychelles for the liquidation of the aggressive military bases and condemns the attempts to restore the Japanese militarism as well as the new fascist conspiracies in India. It hails the government of India and its firm attitude in defending the popular democratic gains against those conspiracies being concocted by the imperialist, communal and reactionary forces.

The Presidium expresses its deep concern over the suppression of democratic patriotic forces and violating human rights in Bangladesh. It appeals to all democratic anti-imperialist forces to rally in solidarity with the people of Bangladesh who are facing hardships to uphold the banner of anti-imperialism and non-alignment for which three million martyrs gave their lives during the liberation struggle.

It considers the forthcoming non-alignment Summit in Colombo as a vital positive development in the international arena and a world demonstration to reinforce the principles of peace.

The meeting calls for the consolidation of the non-alignment's anti-imperialist, anti neo-colonialist, anti-racist, antiapartheid and anti-Zionist content for detente and social progress and especially for supporting the process of the equal development of the non-aligned countries as well as setting up a just economic order based on equality.

The meeting underlines that the struggle for the establishment of new international economic relations on the principles of justice and equality is one of the most important tasks of the Afro-Asian solidarity movement and of other progressive democratic forces of the world.

The Presidium declares that the struggle for the liquidation of colonialism and neo-colonialism is inseparable from the struggle

of the peoples for creating a new international economic order for ensuring the necessary condition for a progressive socio-economic development, for the sovereignty over national resources and the elimination of discriminatory barriers in international trade.

The Presidium fully supports the forthcoming World Conference on Development in Budapest, October 8 -11, 1976 and urges the Permanent Secretariat to undertake all possible efforts to make this conference a big success.

The Presidium expresses its satisfaction with the activities of the Permanent Secretariat regarding the preparation for the non-alignment Summit Conference and supports the active participation in this conference at the highest level.

The participants in this session express great concern for the continuation of the occupation of Cyprus and demand the immediate implementation of the U.N, resolutions in so far as the Cypriot cause is concerned, especially the return of all missing persons and refugees as well as maintaining the independence of Cyprus, the safety and integrity of its lands, the evacuation of foreign troops and its non-alignment.

The meeting supports the efforts of Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the independent and peaceful unification of Korea and condemns the U.S. imperialist activities impeding this unification, the repressive measures prevailing in South Korea, the introduction of nuclear weapons and the building up of a military arsenal therein which constitutes a threat of an aggressive imperialist war. The Presidium calls for the evacuation of the U.S. military troops from South Korea and safeguarding the democratic rights in it.

The meeting strongly condemns the fascist military junta in Chile and declares its full support of the struggle of the Chilean people for independence and democracy. It hails the non-aligned Summit Conference for banning the participation of the fascist

military junta in Chile. It declares its support to the struggle of the peoples of Latin America against the neo-colonialist exploitation and plunder for genuine independence, democratic freedom and social progress.

The Fourth Presidium meeting declares its support to the prominent role played in the African and world liberation movement by the People's Republic of the Congo, especially its role in consolidating the struggle of the Angolan people. It hails its valiant experience in building a socialist society under the leadership of the Congo Labour Party and calls upon all democratic and progressive forces to support, politically and materially, this experience.

The meeting highly appreciates the great achievements in the international arena in favour of the forces of liberation, progress and socialism through the world and in the interest of the triumph of the principles of peaceful co-existence and detente for a complete and overall disarmament, the banning and destruction of all nuclear weapons and the relaxation of international tension. These important changes are the result of the increasing power of the world revolutionary forces embodied in socialist countries, in the forefront of which is the Soviet Union, the World democratic and labour movement, national liberation movements, the non-alignment movement and the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement.

The meeting emphasizes the importance of consolidating the unity of these forces as the guarantee of emerging victories in the battle against world imperialism.

At its Fourth Session, held in Brazzaville, capital of the People's Republic of the Congo, the Presidium declares its full appreciation and support to the activities of the Permanent Secretariat in implementing the resolutions of the 12th Council and the previous Presidium meetings and approves the programme of action as indicated in the Secretary-General's report.

The Fourth Session of the AAPSO Presidium stresses that the forthcoming, celebrations in 1977 to mark the XX anniversary of the solidarity movement will be an important event in the life of Afro-Asian peoples, signifying a high level attained along the road of victories and accomplishments in the struggle for independence and progress. Members of the Presidium and other delegates recommend the holding of the Sixth Solidarity Congress of Afro-Asian peoples at that date.

Resolution On Africa

Positive changes in the world have created favourable conditions for stepping up the liberatory struggle of the people against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, against all forms of national oppression. The peoples of the African continent have scored considerable successes in their selfless struggle for freedom, consolidation of economic independence and social progress. A greater part of Africa has been liberated from the chains of colonialism as a result of their persistent fight during many years.

Independent African states are stepping up their struggle against foreign monopolies for the establishment of equal and just economic relations. They are becoming more active on the international arena, exerting growing influence on the course of world history and contribute tangibly toward strengthening universal peace and security of the nations.

The emergence of independent African states on the ruins of the Portuguese colonial empire has created favourable opportunities for the further intensification of the national liberation movement. The victory of the Angolan people in the struggle against the joint forces of international imperialism, racism and internal reaction has been a powerful impetus for the activity of the national liberation organisations in other parts of the African continent, thus dealing a decisive blow to the policy of demarcation pursued by the U.S. and their allies who are trying to

impede the endeavours of African states to achieve unity and solidarity through the fair and just settlement of international and regional issues.

The Participants in the Session express their support and solidarity with the young African stales, which have scored major successes in strengthening their independence and call upon progressive forces on the world to contribute in every way to their international recognition, socio-economic development, assisting them in the liquidation of the burdensome colonial heritage in all ways of political, economic and cultural life.

- The Presidium calls on all progressive forces participating in the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement to rally their ranks and bend their efforts to completely liberating Africa from the last pockets of the shameful system of colonial and social oppression.

- The Presidium reaffirms its solidarity with the courageous struggle of the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe waged under the leadership of the authentic representative of these peoples - The African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), The South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and The African National Council of Zimbabwe (ANC).

- The Presidium notes with satisfaction the mounting resistance to the racist regime in South Africa on the part of the oppressed and exploited people, the activization of the liberation movement, headed by ANC, the consolidation of unity of Africa's progressive forces, coming out in support of that struggle.

The hypocritical policy of 'dialogue' with African states pursued by the racist regime in combination with increased reprisals inside the country is being denounced more and more. AAPSO calls upon international community to reject Bantustan fraud and not to accord any recognition to Transkei.

- The Presidium expresses resolute protest against barbaric massacres by South African racists against the civilian population

in Soweto and other towns in South Africa and calls on the U.N., the O.A.U. and other international governmental and non-governmental national organizations to take urgent effective measures to put a halt to such crimes on the part of South African authorities.

- The Presidium notes with pleasure the visible successes in the courageous struggle of Namibia's patriots scored under the leadership of their vanguard, the SWAPO, in the complex conditions of growing reprisals and continuing occupation of that country. Noteworthy is a major rise in international support to satisfy the lawful rights of the Namibian people.

- The Presidium reaffirms its support and solidarity to the country's true patriots fighting courageously in the ranks of the African National Council of Zimbabwe against the racist regime of Smith and calls on all AAPSO member organizations as well as African countries to render support and all-round assistance to the fighting peoples of Zimbabwe, through ANC of Zimbabwe.

The Participants of the Fourth Session demand the immediate and unconditional release of all patriots and political prisoners in Southern Africa.

- The Presidium calls on all international public, all progressive forces to lend all-round support to the struggle of the peoples in Southern Africa for freedom and independence. It is necessary to take energetic steps to compel the governments of Western countries to listen to the voice of the world public opinion - and break off relations with the racist regimes, stopping with them all economic trade and cultural ties and fully restrain from supplying them weapons and lending military aid.

The Fourth Presidium of AAPSO fully supports the just struggle of the people of Somali Coast (Djibouti) under the leadership of FLOS and other progressive forces for national independence. We call upon France to completely withdraw from this country and allow the people of the colony right to self-determination.

- The Presidium regards the military provocations and the tactic of threats on the part of the racist Pretoria regime and of Rhodesia against the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola, the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Zambia and other African countries as serious crimes calling for the application of the strictest sanctions in regard to the organizers of these provocations and voices resolute support of the actions of African governments to defend the sovereignty and protect peaceful creative labour of their citizens.

- The Presidium has wholeheartedly denounced an act of piracy committed by Israel, the attack on the Entebbe airport, qualifying it as an act of premeditated aggression against Uganda's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In the face of increasing aggressive designs of the racist regimes in the RSA and Rhodesia, enjoying an everwider support on the part of the imperialist powers, members of NATO, Africa's progressive forces are to rally their ranks and pool wither efforts in the joint struggle for the final liberation of the African continent. Unity of the national liberation movement and independent African states, solidarity with all progressive forces coming out in support of that struggle is a guarantee of victory. AAPSO Fourth Presidium fully recognises the menace and use of mercenaries by international imperialism in the struggle against national liberation movements and progressive militant African states. We, therefore, fully support the measures taken by the People's Republic of Angola to eradicate this evil, and condemn strongly the role of Western countries including racist South Africa in the promotion and perpetuation of this evil. We urge the international community to agree as a matter of urgency to an international convention outlawing the evil of mercenaries.

The Presidium appeals to all member organizations, of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement, all progressive international and national public organizations to take an active

participation in the forthcoming international conferences:

1- On South Africa, organized jointly by AAPSO, ANC(SA) and WPC to be held in Western Europe.

2- The Zimbabwe International Conference sponsored and organized by AAPSO and ANC - Zimbabwe, in a venue that will be announced by the Permanent Secretariat.

The Presidium calls upon all peoples to exert pressure on their governments for adoption of solidarity actions taken by the African countries in favour of the national liberation movements struggling against racist domination of white minorities in Africa.

The Fourth Presidium of AAPSO condemns the growing dangerous USA-Pretoria and Tel Aviv axis directed against African and Arab peoples in general and South African and Palestinian liberation movements in particular.

We accordingly call upon the OAU, Arab League, the socialist countries and all other peace-loving states to extend political and all material assistance to these liberation movements.

The Fifth Meeting Of The AAPSO Presidium*
26th-28th March 1977
Cotonou - People's Republic of Benin

General Declaration

The Fifth Session of the AAPSO Presidium coincides with the 20th Anniversary of the foundation of the Organization. Hence the current Presidium meeting held at Cotonou, People's Republic of Benin from 26 to 28 March 1977, acquired added significance.

Besides members of the Presidium and the Permanent Secretariat the Session was attended by representatives of African liberation movements, many independent African countries, socialist countries and international democratic organizations, as well as the representatives of the U.N. Special Committee against *apartheid*.

The Fifth Presidium of AAPSO, fully aware of the scope and gravity of the imperialist armed aggression against the brotherly people of Benin on the 16th January 1977, vigorously condemns this cowardly aggression and reasserts its full solidarity with the valiant people of Benin in its struggle against international imperialism seeking to wreak vengeance on this people. The Presidium reasserts its full solidarity with the people of Benin in its gigantic task of national reconstruction and ever-growing development, a task that it has dedicated itself to under the guidance of the People's Revolution Party of Benin and the Revolutionary Military Government, led by our great comrade in

* AAPSO Publications (No.89)

the struggle, H.E. President Mathieu Kerekou.

The Fifth Presidium reviewed the international situation particularly related to Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement since the last Presidium held in July 1976 in the People's Republic of the Congo.

The participants noted with great satisfaction the impact of the two biggest Summit Conferences involving Afro-Asian and Arab Heads of State and Government, during the period under review. Soon after the Fourth Presidium, 86 member nations of the non-aligned family had met at the Summit level in Colombo in August 1976.

The very fact of the MPLA led People's Republic of Angola and the unified Socialist Republic of Vietnam joining the Non-aligned Summit for the first time announced to the world the changed correlation of forces in the international arena. The U.S. by vetoing their admission to United Nations was totally isolated and degraded itself into shame and utter disgrace.

The current Presidium has met within two weeks of the successfully concluded Afro-Arab Summit. No less than 60 African and Arab delegations participated in the Cairo Summit from 7th to 9th March 1977, at the highest level. It is a solid basis for political and mutually advantageous economic cooperation between Arab and African countries.

Thus the Fifth Presidium hails the results of the Fifth Summit of the Non-Aligned countries and the First Afro-Arab Summit for solidarity and cooperation. Both these events reinforce the growing unity among developing nations in their decisive struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism, Zionism and neo-colonialism.

The unity and solidarity of anti-imperialist forces among the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America with the full support of the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries, is paying rich dividends in both political and economic fields. The struggle

on the diplomatic field inside the United Nations has been reflected in the yet stronger and more categorical resolutions in support of liberation struggles against colonialism, racialism, apartheid and Zionism.

On the other hand, imperialist aggressive forces are being faced with the mounting struggle by the popular masses of Southern Africa, under the leadership of ANC (S.A.) in South Africa, ANC of Zimbabwe and SWAPO in Namibia, with the help of the progressive neighbouring states.

Militarily wounded and morally isolated, colonial-racialist regimes in Pretoria and Salisbury are resorting to trickeries and mockeries by pretending to soften apartheid. Thus the Vorster regime announces fake autonomy for Transkei and false concessions in Namibia, whereas Ian Smith promises a better deal for black majority in terms of land-holdings. Rather than recognizing the sovereign right of the people of African origin - the overwhelming majority of the people - to complete independence, the fascist minority regimes still go on defying the world-wide demand. That is why the people of Namibia and South Africa absolutely reject the fake "independence" proposals coming from the hated *apartheid* regime.

Like any other liberation struggle, the road to liberty in the southern part of Africa demands determination, unity and solidarity of anti-imperialist forces. The Soweto uprising has once again shown the unshakable courage of the peoples of Southern Africa and their determination to liquidate the last vestiges of colonialism.

It is in this direction that AAPSO convened the highly successful International Conferences in Luanda and in Addis Ababa. And now it is preparing for a yet highly important World Conference against Apartheid and Colonialism in southern Africa, to be held on the first anniversary of Soweto massacre, i.e. 16 June 1977. AAPSO reiterates its full support to the liberation movements in Southern Africa and its firm determination to adopt

definite militant stands for the elimination of apartheid and colonialism and the liquidation of imperialism.

The Presidium supports the struggle of the people of the Somali Coast/Djibouti and calls upon the French government to implement all its resolutions and agreements with the national forces in the country as well as to immediately withdraw all its troops there and release all militants from its prisons. It also demands of the French Government that it creates the proper democratic climate, without any hindrances of any form, for the referendum relevant to independence and that it respects the June 27, 1977, as the definite date for the proclamation of the country's full independence.

The Fifth Presidium of AAPSO hails the victories and progress achieved by the revolutionary and dynamic forces of Ethiopia to eradicate feudalism and imperialism and to lay a firm foundation to build a socialist society and its just struggle to defend its territorial integrity and sovereignty.

The Presidium warns against the dangers posed by imperialist conspiracies against the revolutionary process and anti-imperialist struggle of the Ethiopian people. It calls for united actions by all progressive forces in the region against imperalists' conspiracies and their agents in the area.

Meetings on the soil of the friendly people of Benin who have recently rebuffed an imperialist aggression, the participants in the Presidium realised how serious was the menace of mercenaries for newly liberated countries. In the same context, the history of the second phase of the Angolan struggle for liberation is too fresh to be forgotten. The Presidium strongly urges the international community to take speedy measures, through a UN convention, to ban such induction of mercenaries by imperialist forces.

As the Presidium underlines the paramount importance of bringing fighting in Lebanon to an end, it notes that the Lebanese crisis is, as ever, very deep.

The escalation of the provocation of internal fascist forces to block efforts for a political solution, the Israeli direct military intervention, after the cease-fire, side by side with the Lebanese fascists in South Lebanon and lastly the assassination of Kamal Jumblatt reveal the enormous difficulties that obstruct the establishing of peace in Lebanon.

The Presidium supports the struggle of the Progressive Lebanese National Movement for a political solution of the Lebanese crisis, on a democratic basis that ensure the unity, integrity and sovereignty of Lebanon, including all the border-line regions in the South of the country threatened by Israeli annexation.

U.S. imperialism and world Zionism have not abandoned their aggressive policies und conspiracies against the Arab States and the Arab Palestinian people and their national legitimate rights. This is affirmed by the U.S. imperialists increasing all-round consolidation of Israel particularly in the form of military hardware and billions of dollars in order to double its aggressive potentials.

This conspiracy is also manifest in attempts to break the Arab unity against imperialism and Zionism and to isolate the Arab struggle from the consolidation of the socialist forces, and the Soviet Union in particular.

The Presidium expresses great concern and indignation at Israel's fascist and racist policy of continued demographic changes, oppression, repression and discrimination against the Arab Palestinian masses in the occupied Arab territories.

The First Afro-Arab Summit has correctly pointed out the links between the imperialist - Zionist - racist combine, which is a ring formed by Tel Aviv-Pretoria and Washington axis supported by the Western imperialist countries particularly Federal Republic of Germany, Britain and France, to stifle the resurgence of African and Arab solidarity. It is imperative for the freedom and

independence of all nations, especially in the Third World, to defeat this racist-Zionist conspiracy.

The Presidium supports the confrontation states and all the Arab peoples, in particular the people of Palestine in order to face the imperialist-Zionist design. It is of the view that convening the Geneva Conference - with the participation of the PLO as a full member on the basis of the complete withdrawal of the Israeli aggressor forces from all the occupied Arab territories and the realization of the Arab Palestinian people's national rights to return to their homeland and exercise their right to self-determination and to establish their national independent state – can contribute to solving the Middle East crisis.

The Presidium expressed deep grief at the great loss which has befallen international African and Arab national liberation movements, and the struggle of all the recently independent African peoples, with the assassination of the great President and faithful son of Africa Marien N'gouabi, following the assassination of Comrade Jason Moyo - the prominent leader of the Zimbabwean people's struggle at the end of January last, and the recent assassination of Lebanese progressive leader Kamal Jumblatt.

The Presidium recommends to the Permanent Secretariat and all national AAPSO organizations to commemorate the anniversary of our fallen martyrs.

The Presidium strongly condemns these criminal assassinations and denounces the forces behind them and voices firm support of the World national liberation front in its struggle to foil all hostile conspiracies.

The Presidium declares its support of the heroic struggle waged by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman for the liberation of the Omani territories from military bases and foreign military presence. The Presidium condemns the hostile and expansionist policy, pursued by the Iranian Government, in the Arab Gulf area

and its repeated aggressions against the national sovereignty of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. It equally supports the struggle of the people of Bahrein and Kuwait for democracy.

The Presidium demands safeguarding democratic rights and freedoms in Arab States in support of the Arab liberation movements. It also calls for securing the release of progressive nationalist political prisoners.

The Presidium expresses the anxiety and the preoccupation vis-à-vis the situation created in Western Sahara due to the manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialism and its allies.

- demands the States concerned to refer to the U.N. Charter concerning the respect of the right of the peoples to self -determination.

The Presidium noted the recent moves made by U.N. Secretary-General to bring together the 1eadership of Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus. It also noted the positive contribution made by President Makarios in solving the problem of Cyprus. It supports the stand of the patriotic forces of Cyprus to retain it an independent non-aligned state with all citizens enjoying equal status.

The Presidium reiterates its support to the struggle of the Korean people for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country, condemns the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique for their "two Koreas" plot and their manoeuvres to unleash another war and demands the immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea and for the liquidation of all U.S. military bases there.

In South East Asia, imperialism is working in collusion with local reaction to topple anti-imperialist governments and is launching repeated aggressions against the progressive non-aligned governments in Indo-China.

The Presidium warns against foreign intervention in progressive non-aligned Asian countries and calls for cooperation in promoting

the economy of Vietnam and Indo-China. The Presidium calls on the U.S. to honour its commitments to repair war damages in Vietnam.

The Presidium expresses its concern over the repression and persecution to which are submitted national and progressive forces in several countries of Asia and Africa and the violation of the most preliminary principles of democratic freedom. The Presidium reasserts its deep conviction that the struggle for democracy is closely linked with the struggle for independence and progress. The Presidium therefore proclaims its firm support to the struggle waged by all national and progressive forces for the strict observance of democracy and the safeguarding of political freedoms, freedom of the press, and freedom of organizations in all the countries of the two continents.

The Presidium reiterates its demand in support of the developing countries to implement the U.N. Declaration on a New International Economic Order and its Programme of Action. It expresses its dissatisfaction over the manner the Western industrialized countries are creating obstacles in achieving the goals set by UN International Development Strategy. The targets of the Second Development Decade are no where in sight and the Paris dialogue between the capitalist West and the developing countries proved a failure due to the obstinacy of the former on all grounds such as debt relief, raw materials and energy. It is the same colonialist attitude in political, cultural and economic fields which the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America are facing.

In the field of information and mass media, the imperialist stronghold is so menacing and full of distortion about events in the Third World that the Non-aligned countries have established a Newspool of their own. AAPSO considers decolonisation of mass media as an important aspect of anti-imperialist struggle.

While supporting the just stand of Non-aligned countries and the decisions of the Afro-Arab groups represented by Arab

League and the Organization of African Unity as against world imperialism in all its manifestations, AAPSO Presidium considers its duty to point out that popular level participation and involvement are essential in facing the challenges of the enemy. Governments and their decisions are not enough. The more the people feel directly involved in struggles as well as decisions the better the chances of successes in the total rout of imperialism, colonialism, racia1ism, Zionism and neo-colonialism. It is in this context that the AAPSO Presidium mandates the Permanent Secretariat to prepare for the 20th Anniversary celebrations and the Sixth Congress of AAPSO as a new stage and important landmark in the successful onward march of total liberation of peoples of Asia and Africa in both political and economic fields.

The Presidium has noticed with deep concern the serious escalation of the imperialist onslaught against the national liberation movements and against the progressive regimes of Asia and Africa. Imperialism severely and many times defeated, gains in virulence, resorts to all criminal methods to strike at the liberation forces and preserve its hegemony and plunder of the riches of our peoples, through political and economic pressure, collusion with local reactionary forces, recruitment of mercenaries, direct aggression and political assassinations.

This imperialist onslaught makes it more than ever imperative to escalate the solidarity and unity of peoples in face of its agents, demonstrates the importance of the tasks undertaken by our Organization in this field and points out the necessity to promote and further develop all efforts and initiatives for the conso1idatian of the militant unity between the peoples of the two continents and all the anti-imperialist forces of the world.

AAPSO Presidium welcomes and stresses the outstanding significance of the forthcoming World Congress of Peace Builders to be convened in Warsaw from 6 to 11 May, 1977.

The Presidium underlines the importance of activities on

national and international levels with different social organizations and the Women's Organizations in particular to implement the aims of the UN Women's decade.

It welcomes the U.N. decision on proclamation 1979 as an International Year of the Child, and to act for the protection of the rights of all children, and for education of children in spirit of peace, solidarity and humanity.

The Fifth Presidium, meeting on the land of the militant People's Republic of Benin, reiterates AAPSO's determination to carry out its historic mission in support of the Afro-Asian struggle which constitutes an indivisible part of progressive humanity's struggle against imperialism, colonialism, and racism for the sake of dignity and justice.

The Sixth Meeting Of The Presidium Of The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization* 17th - 18th February, 1978 Nicosia - Cyprus

The Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization held its Sixth Session in Nicosia, the capital of the Republic of Cyprus, on 17th and 18th February 1978.

It is the Presidium's first meeting since the celebration of the Twentieth Anniversary of the Organization, which gives it special importance.

This importance is further enhanced by the fact that the period preceding the convening of the Session has witnessed major development in the Afro-Asian Peoples' struggle to consolidate their national independence in face of the imperialist and neo-colonialist aggression, and in the international arena in general.

The discussions of the Sixth Session of the Presidium have pointed out that the forces of imperialism and aggression have lately resorted to the adoption of perfidious manoeuvres in the face of the growing momentum of the forces of national liberation, democracy and socialism, as a result of their struggle to consolidate their national liberation, maintain and safeguard detente, peace and security. This is evident in the desperate attempts made by imperialism to consolidate racist regimes, undermine the peoples' achievements, destabilise progressive

* AAPSO Publications (No.94)

governments and deepen differences between national and progressive forces. This is also evident in the U.S. Administration's obstruction of the disarmament negotiations and escalating the arms race to a new stage by manufacturing the neutron bomb.

While the Presidium condemns the new international imperialist and reactionary offensive, it affirms that this offensive is not an indication of strength but rather a desperate reaction to the repeated defeats it has lately suffered. Therefore the confrontation and foiling of such an offensive necessitate maximum consolidation of the unity of national and progressive forces, and the further enhancement of their struggle against colonialism, imperialism and reaction.

In the face of that offensive, the Presidium notes that the past period has witnessed the steadfastness and determination of the international anti-imperialist front to proceed ahead with its struggle. The consolidation of the combined struggle of the national liberation movements and the socialist countries and the success recorded by the peoples of socialist countries in building progressive socialist order as well as the peace-loving policy pursued by their governments have all enhanced the prestige, the strength, and the influence of the world socialist system on the course of world events. This has also helped to consolidate the concept of peaceful coexistence, international detente and popular pressure to check the arms' race and bring about disarmament.

The Presidium observes with satisfaction the mounting anti-imperialist popular struggle. The Presidium notes the further strengthening of the national liberation movement, its strong thrust in all continents and countries particularly in face of the racist regimes and its firm stand against the incessant imperialist attempts aimed at liquidating its gains and regaining former imperialist positions. In the meantime, and under the circumstances of the acute economic crisis inside the capitalist

countries and the attempts of monopolies to lay the onus of this crisis on the shoulders of the masses, the influence of progressive democratic forces increases and so does the peoples' conviction in the radical solutions envisaged by these forces to emerge from this crisis.

The Presidium is of the view that this recent imperialist offensive can only be interpreted in the light of the world situation. This can point out the way for confronting and foiling the imperialist offensive by strengthening the struggle waged against colonialism, imperialism, racism, Zionism - and at the same time, endeavouring to unify the national and progressive forces, consolidate the world anti-imperialist front and seek to solve internal differences out of unity and not out of conflict.

The Presidium notes that the Middle East region is passing through a grave and sensitive stage which confirmed Israel's determination to pursue a policy of occupation, annexation of territory by force and refusal to recognize the Arab Palestinian People's legitimate rights. The Presidium also notes that U.S. aid to Israel as represented in its supply with successive arms shipment, and its categoric refusal to exercise any pressure constitute the ground on which Israeli arrogance stands.

The Presidium observes that the joint objective of the Israeli-U.S. policy in the Middle East at present is to gain time and exploit it in deepening differences in the Arab World and liquidating the Palestinian liberation movement so that matters may be rearranged in the region and Israeli-U.S. solutions imposed. To complete this imperialist scheme, imperialist conspiracies are active in Lebanon, with a view to triggering off a new civil war, to isolate Lebanon from its Arab circle and impose on it racist fascist domination or to divide it and set up a racist reactionary state on a part of its land, in the Arab Gulf, to consolidate the imperialist military presence in the region and in Oman, to consolidate the Irani military presence there.

While the Presidium condemns the persistent imperialist offensive in the Middle East, it stresses that the establishment of durable and just peace in the area would only be effected by imposing an Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including the Palestinian territories, recognizing the legitimate rights of the Arab Palestinian people, foremost among which is the right to return to their homeland, the right to self-determination and to set up its independent national state, on their own land.

The Presidium asserts that the realization of these objectives necessitates caution and vigilance on the part of the Arab peoples, consolidation of unity and solidarity between these peoples and their national, progressive and democratic forces, as well as interception of all attempts aimed at isolating them from the universal liberation movement, and from the socialist countries, their natural allies.

The Presidium, meeting on the land of the friendly Cypriot people considers the continued occupation of part of the Island and the presence of foreign troops thereon, a link in the chain of imperialist conspiracies in the Middle East and the Mediterranean. The Presidium expresses its support to President Kyprianou's government's policy rejecting the imperialist plans and its declaration that it is determined to continue on the course that the late President Makarios has opened. The Presidium voices its strong support for the stance adopted by the Cypriot patriotic forces to maintain the country's territorial integrity, independence, sovereignty, and non-alignment, and calls on all sincere forces to intensify their efforts in offering solidarity and supporting by practical means the just struggle of the people of Cyprus.

The Presidium also expresses its grave concern over the escalation of fighting in the Western Sahara and condemns French military interference, which in its opinion contributes to the further aggravation of the current crisis and greatly endangers the

entire region. It calls for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the territory, so that the Saharaoui people can exercise their legitimate right to self-determination and independence.

The Presidium notes the mounting struggle of the popular masses in Southern Africa under the leadership of the African National Congress of South Africa, the Patriotic Front in Zimbabwe and SWAPO in Namibia. To confront this just struggle, the imperialism exerts desperate efforts to find new forms through which it can continue its domination, coercion and exploitation of this minerally rich and strategically located area. Hence it resorts to honeyed declarations and suspicious projects to camouflage its conspiracies against the mounting liberation movement in the area.

The Presidium considers the so-called 'internal settlement' in Rhodesia as an Anglo-American imperialist manoeuvre intended to retain racism and continued exploitation of the people of Zimbabwe. It is a grave danger to independent Africa and therefore, the Presidium calls upon all progressive forces and countries to denounce this 'settlement conspiracy' and reject it outright.

The Presidium condemns the persistence of the U.S.A., Israel and NATO countries in extending military aid to the racist regime of South Africa enabling it to tighten its illegal grasp on Namibia in defiance of the U.N. resolutions.

The Presidium calls for all-out support for the peoples of Southern Africa in their struggle under the leadership of ANC, SWAPO and Patriotic Front to eliminate the vestiges of colonialism and racism.

The Presidium also calls on all progressive peace and freedom loving forces to redouble their acts of solidarity, with the struggling peoples of Southern Africa particularly during this year of anti-apartheid struggle.

The Presidium holds the view that the World Conference held in

Lisbon last year against Apartheid, Racism and Colonialism, which AAPSO co-sponsored, was a turning point in the momentum of international solidarity with the struggle of the South African peoples. It calls on all anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist forces to make the International Conference in Solidarity with the Zimbabwe People, which will be held by the AAPSO this year, a new and major landmark in the movement of international solidarity with the Zimbabwe people's struggle.

The Presidium is also of the view that the present conflict in the Horn of Africa does not serve the struggle of the African and the Arab peoples against imperialism, colonialism and Zionism. Only the imperialist and reactionary forces will benefit from the aggravation of this conflict, these forces seek to impose their dominance over the Horn of Africa, an area enjoying an important strategic position. The Presidium considers such conflict a menace to the revolutionary achievements of the peoples of Somalia and Ethiopia.

The Presidium affirms that the Charter of the U.N., the O.A.U. and the recommendations passed by the League of Arab States provide an acceptable basis for a peaceful solution, in keeping with the aspirations of the peoples of the area to liberation, and progress, which would eliminate all forms of foreign interference and attempts to internationalize the conflict.

The Presidium supports guaranteeing the territorial integrity of each state, non-interference in the affairs of the other states, non-aggression, the right to self-determination, the inadmissibility of the occupation or annexation of land by force and the peaceful settlement of differences and disputes.

The Presidium calls on all forces supporting the struggle of the African and Arab peoples to redouble their efforts to bring a halt to military operations for the withdrawal of invading forces, and to start immediately negotiations aimed at finding a peaceful settlement to the conflict.

The Presidium appreciates the role of the Socialist Community of unconditional assistance and constant support for the African countries.

The Presidium is of the opinion that imperialist and Zionist forces are exploiting the conflict in the Horn of Africa in an attempt to shake Afro-Arab Solidarity which witnessed significant development and growth particularly in the wake of the First Afro-Arab Summit held in March 1977.

The Presidium stresses the importance of repelling this conspiracy and consolidating that solidarity which proved its success and vigour in the common struggle of the African and Arab peoples against the common enemy for the realization of their common national and progressive goals.

The Presidium notes that Asia was the scene, during the past year, of various rapid and successive developments which reflect in their entirety the anxiety of the Asian peoples over their deteriorating economic situation and the failure of political and social formulas, so far proposed, in solving the aggravated economic and social problems suffered by these peoples.

The Presidium notes that the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia have achieved further economic successes, thanks to their efforts and sacrifices and to the assistance and consolidation of the progressive countries in Asia and Africa, the Socialist countries and the developing countries.

The Presidium feels utmost concern over the Vietnamese-Cambodian borders question.

The Presidium calls for the cessation of fighting and the immediate start of talks as proposed by the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to solve the problems under dispute in a spirit of militant fraternity, that spirit which previously enabled the peoples of the area to realize victory over the U.S. giant imperialist power und to attain their aspirations for unity, independence and socialism.

The Presidium expresses its concern over the continued presence of U.S. forces in South Korea and over the growing tension resulting from the constant threats to resort to nuclear weapons and from the U.S. endeavour to reformulate its Asian aggressive strategy.

The Presidium strongly denounces the splittists at home and abroad for the 'theory of cross recognition', 'theory of simultaneous U.N. membership', 'theory of balance of forces' and the 'two Koreas' plot aimed at dividing Korea into two for ever, and the new war provocation manoeuvres and the fascist suppression against the people.

Holding that the Korean reunification should be realized in accordance with the three principles and five-point policy for national reunification set forth by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Presidium demands that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean Authorities should stop the 'two Koreas' plot and the U.S. troops withdraw from South Korea without delay taking along all kinds of destruction weapons including nuclear weapons, and notes that their presence poses an incessant threat to the sovereignty, independence and security of the Asian countries whose peoples aspire to the liquidation of military bases and to turning the Indian Ocean and the Asian continent into a region of peace.

The Presidium hails the heroic victories of the people of East Timor over the invading foreign forces.

In the Indian Ocean not only does the U.S. nuclear base in Diego Garcia continue to exist in a line with the military base in North Capo in Australia and the massive installations in Simonstown in South Africa, but new U.S. bases have been established in Masirah and Bahrein. It was as a result of the demands of the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean area, for making the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, supported by all peace-loving forces all over the world as reflected in U.N.

resolutions, that talks had begun sometime ago between the U.S.A. and the USSR for the gradual demilitarization of the Indian Ocean. But these talks are reported to be stalled, if so this is to be strongly deplored. U.S. imperialism is doing all it can to increase military activity in the Indian Ocean. On the one hand, it is manoeuvring so that the ASEAN (The Association of South East Asian Nations) which was originally an arrangement for regional economic cooperation, develops a military role under the American umbrella, on the other hand, the Shah of Iran, who for so many years has been building a huge arsenal of the most sophisticated military war, is now engaged in developing a navy with large-scale role in the Indian Ocean. Needless to say the activity of such a navy will only be tantamount to a vast expansion in the operation of the CENTO in this region.

These developments both endanger the overall peace of the region and will once again increase tension but also directly threaten the anti-imperialist liberationist forces in the Red Sea and the Arab Gulf area.

The Presidium calls for the further strengthening of the movement in support of the demand for turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and for strengthening peace and security in the Asian continent.

The Presidium notes that the failure of the Paris Conference for International Economic Cooperation is due to the insistence of the advanced capitalist countries to deny the demands of the developing countries to set up a more equitable new International Economic Order that can secure higher revenues for the developing countries from the international economic process.

The Presidium holds that the battle of the New International Economic Order is a demanding and fierce battle to win requiring the developing countries to get armed with whatever would ensure their victory. Topping the list of required arms are the ensuring of the developing countries control over their natural resources, the

consolidation of cooperation among the developing countries themselves, making maximal use of the outcome of economic, commercial, and technical cooperation with members of the COMECON.

The Presidium calls for further consolidation of AAPSO activity in the field of development and the struggle for a New International Economic Order.

The Presidium hails, in that respect, the decision taken by the Permanent Secretariat to issue the quarterly "Development and Economic and Social Progress". It is of the opinion that this quarterly is an important contribution to the struggle of the peoples of Asia and Africa for building up their national independent economy, in consolidation of their political independence and in the face of the neo-colonialist manoeuvres.

The Presidium decides to start forthwith the implementation of its decision to establish the Afro-Asian Centre for Development, in Baghdad. It recommends the Permanent Secretariat to provide all possible assistance in order to enable the Centre to realize its assigned tasks.

The Sixth Presidium Session held in Nicosia, capital of Cyprus, expresses its full support for the Permanent Secretariat activity in implementing the resolutions of previous sessions and approves the programme of action included in the Secretary General's report.

The Presidium affirms its conviction that the activity of the Permanent Secretariat in the coming period will deepen the line of struggle drawn up by AAPSO for the forthcoming period and which could be summed up as follows:

1- To intensify the struggle against colonialism, imperialism, Zionism and racial discrimination.

2- To consolidate the unity of the national progressive forces in Asia and Africa and to affirm their alliance with the liberation movement and the socialist community and its vanguard the

Soviet Union.

3- To reinforce world peace and the policy of political and military detente and to work for the realization of disarmament.

4- To strive for the cause of development and for setting up the New International Economic Order.

5- To boost the relations of AAPSO with the international democratic organisations and with the U.N. and its specialised agencies.

The Presidium stresses that the Sixth Congress of AAPSO scheduled for the end of 1978 will constitute a remarkable event in the history of the solidarity movement and an outstanding landmark for living up to the standard reached by its successes and achievements. Therefore, it underscores the importance of good preparation for that significant event.

The Presidium, in its Sixth Session on the land of militant Cyprus, reaffirms the determination of AAPSO to fulfil its historic tasks in support of the just struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples which forms an inseparable part of the struggle of progressive mankind against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism and racism and for freedom, independence, progress and peace.

The Seventh Meeting Of The Presidium Of The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization* 13th - 15th January 1979 Hanoi, Socialist Republic of Vietnam General Declaration

The Seventh Session of the Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization took place in Hanoi, the capital of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, from 13 to 15 January 1979.

Participants at the session, who were members of the AAPSO Presidium, noted figures of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement, representatives of member-organizations, national liberation movements, mass organizations of the socialist countries and international democratic organizations - gathered together in heroic Vietnam to declare their full solidarity with the Vietnamese people who in the difficult years of the war while defending their independence has made a great contribution to the common cause of the peoples of Asia, Africa and the whole world and are now confidently marching along the road of peaceful construction.

The participants in the session examined the urgent problems of the national liberation movement and of the present-day world development, and mapped out the tasks of the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement in the framework of the international democratic movement and world-wide anti-imperialist struggle.

Members of the Presidium note with feelings of profound satisfaction the weighty contribution that the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement is making to the world revolutionary process and to the

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struggle of the peoples for freedom and socio-economic progress, for peace, for the easing of international tension and stopping the arms race against imperialism, colonialism, neo-co1onialism, racism, apartheid and Zionism.

The colonial empires have collapsed under the blows of the liberation forces. There is now a resolute struggle going on to destroy the last strongholds of colonialism, racism and apart heid in Southern Africa. The sovereign African and Asian countries are strengthening their independence. Their role on the international scene is becoming more and more important. The authority and influence of the non-aligned nations are growing. The influence of the non-aligned countries of socialist orientation is getting stronger. The struggle to establish a new international economic order (N.I.E.O.) is gaining momentum. The building up of national democratic fronts is a great weapon in the anti-imperialist struggle and the national committees of AAPSO are called upon to act as catalysts for establishing patriotic alliances.

The socialist countries, in particular the Soviet Union, are giving constant and all-round help and support to the forces fighting for national and social liberation. The joint struggle of the socialist countries, the international workers' movement, the national liberation forces, the entire world progressive public is a major factor of victory over imperialism and for the triumph of the ideas of freedom, peace, friendship.

The peoples of Asia and Africa assess highly the outstanding contribution of the Soviet Union to the untiring struggle of all progressive and peace-loving forces for peace, relaxation of tensions, for a stop to the arms race, for freedom and social progress and for peaceful and equal international cooperation on the basis of mutual respect for national independence and sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs.

The Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization draws the attention of the international public to

unceasing attempts by world imperialism to impede the process of the total decolonization, national liberation, social and economic progress in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Towards this end, leaning on internal reaction, the imperialist powers have been provoking and fanning up strife between the States, have been staging border conflicts, interventions and conspiracies with the help of mercenaries, have been carrying out subversive activities with the active participation of the multinational corporations, seeking to keep in power the most anti-popular regimes at all cost, to use them as a means to suppress progressive and democratic forces in the Afro-Asian world.

Representatives of the international public who have gathered in Hanoi express their militant solidarity with the struggle of the Arab nation, and above all with the Palestinian people who under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative - the PLO - are courageously fighting for their inalienable national rights.

The meeting condemns the continuing efforts of the US to become the sole regulator of settlements in the Middle East and its constant policy to impose solutions detrimental to the rights and aspirations of the people of the region, solutions which tend to perpetuate the occupation of Arab lands, and to jeopardise the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people and by pass the only correct process of reaching a settlement through the participation of all the parties concerned and primarily the PLO.

In view of this the meeting strongly condemns the imperialist US and Zionist policy in the Middle East through the agreements of Camp-David and other moves which do not realize just peace in the region and especially frustrate the aspirations and objectives of the Palestinian people for full independence and freedom and have aimed at the dividing of the Arab ranks.

In this connection the Presidium is happy to note that a resolution moved jointly by the socialist countries and non-aligned countries at the U.N. General Assembly calling to hold a new

Geneva peace conference under U.N. auspices, Soviet and United States co-chairmanship and with the participation of all parties concerned including the PLO was adopted by a very large majority. The Presidium reiterates its consistent position that a comprehensive Middle East peace would be impossible until Israel withdrew from all occupied Palestinian and Arab lands and the Palestinian people could exercise their national rights, foremost of which their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state. It further demands that the earlier General Assembly resolution demanding Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank of the Jordan River and the creation of a PLO - organised Palestine State there, be implemented.

The Presidium firmly condemns the continued Israeli aggression on Lebanon, its continued intervention in the Lebanese affairs, its refusal to implement the Security Council Resolution 425, the collusion and encouragement of U.S. in the aggression, the schemes of isolationist-fascist Lebanese forces to disrupt Lebanon's unity, national independence and its affiliation to the Arab nation, and their attempts to set up a reactionary fascist state.

The Presidium hails the heroic resistance of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples against this repeated Israeli aggression, and expresses its militant solidarity with the struggle of the Lebanese people and the Palestinian patriotic forces for a sovereign, united patriotic non-sectarian Arab-affiliated Lebanon.

The Presidium supports the struggle of the people of Cyprus for ending the forcible division of their country. The Presidium demands the earliest implementation of all the U.N. resolutions on Cyprus, its reunification, restoration of its territorial integrity, elimination of the military bases, and safeguarding its sovereignty and non-aligned status.

The Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization points to the danger of schemes by imperialism and

reaction in Africa, the use of NATO mechanism for direct military interference in African countries and the creation of the so-called "inter-African" but actually anti-African forces under the aegis of the NATO.

The Presidium denounces the imperialist plans to build up tension in the Horn of Africa, particularly with the aim of reversing the victorious course of the Ethiopian Revolution to which AAPSO extends its support. We hope that the problem of nationalities including the nationalities in Eritrea will be solved safeguarding the national unity of Ethiopia, and accelerating the construction of socialism by the Revolutionary Government of Ethiopia.

Concerning the shameful system of racism and Apartheid in Southern Africa, the participants at the session of the AAPSO Presidium pledged full solidarity for the struggle of the peoples of this region under the leadership of the African National Congress of South Africa, the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and the South West Africa People's Organization in Namibia.

The Presidium strongly condemns the aggressive policy of the racist regimes against the front-line states whose crime is the adherence to the U.N. resolutions, which call for support to the national liberation movement in South Africa. The Presidium appeals for moral and practical solidarity to the front-line States which with their stand contribute in a significant way for the elimination of racism and oppression and the consolidation of peace in Africa.

The Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization welcomes the decisions of the International Conference of Solidarity with the struggle of African and Arab nations against imperialism and reaction held in Addis Ababa in September of 1978. This Conference made a weighty contribution to strengthening the unity and solidarity of the patriotic and freedom loving forces of the Arab and African countries in the struggle against their common enemy - imperialism and reaction.

The Presidium welcomes the decisions of the New-Delhi International Conference on Apartheid and for the liberation of Southern Africa, 28 September - 2 October 1978, and considers it a significant rallying point for the international struggle for the final liquidation of racism and the liberation of Southern Africa.

The Presidium appreciates the high historic contribution of the International Ideological Colloquium of Conakry, and supports the positive results which contribute, undoubtedly, to the intensification of the peoples' struggle against their clan enemy: imperialism.

The participants at the Seventh Session of the AAPSO Presidium express fraternal solidarity with the valiant people of Vietnam, whose historic victory in the war against imperialist aggression of the United States and its underlings was a big contribution to the success of the anti-imperialist, revolutionary struggle of all nations. The anti-imperialist, peace-loving and good-neighbourly policy of Socialist Vietnam has gained warm sympathy and recognition of progressive forces everywhere.

The participants in the Session denounce the hegemonic aspirations, aggressive and great-power arrogant policy of the Chinese leaders towards the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The international public voices seriously concern over the fact that the Chinese leaders are strengthening their political and military ties with the forces of imperialism and reaction, and in particular with the fascist junta of Chile and the South African regime which harm the national liberation movement and the movement for peace, whipping up tension in South-East Asia and Asia as a whole. The Presidium of the AAPSO expresses its confidence that efforts to step up the international campaign of solidarity with Vietnam which has embarked on the road of peaceful construction of socialism will contribute to the cause of peace, independence and mutual understanding and friendship between all nations in Asia.

The Presidium has attentively listened to the speech of the

Kampuchean delegation informing it about the liberation of Phnom Penh and of the whole Kampuchea by the people and the armed forces of Kampuchea, and announcing the setting up of the Kampuchean Revolutionary People's Council, the only genuine and legitimate representative of the Kampuchean people. The Kampuchean delegation has also informed the meeting about the domestic and foreign policy of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation and of the Kampuchean Revolution People's Council, a policy which will help build a peaceful, independent, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea, advancing to socialism, enjoying a happy and prosperous life and contributing to the safeguard of peace and stability in South-East Asia. AAPSO calls on all countries and national and international organizations to promote the fine traditions of solidarity with the Kampuchean people in the defence and building of their homeland.

The Presidium of AAPSO warmly welcomes the great of efforts of the Lao people in healing the wounds of war and building a peaceful, independent, democratic and socialist Laos. It welcomes the foreign policy of peace, friendship and cooperation of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos and vehemently condemns the manoeuvres and dark schemes undertaken by imperialism and international reaction against the independence and sovereignty of Laos while interfering in its internal affairs. AAPSO calls on national Afro-Asian solidarity organizations, the governments of Asian and African countries and of the world to give Laos such necessary aid as to help it overcome the heavy sequels of war and build the country.

The Presidium reiterates the demand for the peaceful reunification of Korea, withdrawal of U.S. armed forces from South Korea, restoration of democratic liberties in South Korea and the independent peaceful reunification of Korea without foreign interference.

The Presidium of AAPSO notes with satisfaction that the South

East Asian countries have striven hard to make of this zone, a zone of peace, independence, neutrality, stability and prosperity.

The bilateral and multilateral relations established between the developing countries in South East Asia in the economic and cultural fields, on the basis of a friendly and mutually benefitting cooperation, will bring about positive changes for this zone, thus contributing to the strengthening of the independence of each country and to the consolidation of peace and security in Asia and in the whole world. The Meeting strongly supports the struggle of the people in South Asia and countries bordering on the Indian Ocean for the dismantling of aggressive military bases of imperialism, like Diego Garcia, and to make of this zone, a zone of peace.

The Presidium sends its greetings to the unprecedented popular revolution in Iran for the restoration of democratic rights and ending the U.S. imperialists' stranglehold over the country. Iran provides major military bases to the U.S. Navy at Chah Bahar and Bandar Abbas and its very sophisticated massive military build up is a threat to all the progressive and liberation forces in the region.

The Presidium hails the most significant political action by the Iranian oil workers in suspending oil production till there is guarantee that Iranian oil will not be supplied to the racist fascist regimes in Southern Africa and to the Zionist aggressor regime in Israel, on the one hand, and to demand that Iran is freed from the CENTO and other military alliances with US imperialism.

The AAPSO Presidium expresses confidence that the forthcoming Non-aligned Summit Conference in Havana will become a new stage for the further consolidation of the Non-aligned movement which is an important link of the world front of action against imperialism. The international situation urgently requires that participants in the Non-aligned movement take active steps for national and social liberation, for easing

international tension, curbing the ruinous arms race, banning nuclear weapons including the neutron bomb, expanding international cooperation and mutual understanding establishing a new economic order and restructuring international economic relations.

The Presidium stresses the necessity of working actively for restructuring international economic relations on a just and democratic basis, for establishing a new international economic order, which would protect the developing countries from the policy of neo-colonialist exploitation, and which would help these countries overcome as soon as possible their economic backwardness and ensure rapid progress of all peoples and states.

The Presidium sends its greeting to the patriots in many countries of Latin America who are heroically continuing their struggle against fascism and neo-colonialist domination particularly as in Chile, Nicaragua, Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil and Guatemala, and reaffirms the rights of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence.

The Presidium condemns the imperialist project for creating the so-called South Atlantic Treaty Organization which is a serious threat to the peoples of South America and the South of Africa. The Presidium warns against the effort to revive fascism in many parts of the world and calls for united resistance by all democratic forces against this menace. The Presidium welcomes the growing cooperation between the AAPSO and a large number of democratic international and national organizations, peace forces in Western countries and non-governmental organizations.

The Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization calls on all the forces of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement and the national liberation movements to cement anti-imperialist unity, as an indispensable condition for the triumph of the cause of national independence, peace, social progress,

prosperity and happiness of nations. It calls on them to deepen their alliance with world socialism, and the international democratic movement.

The Eighth Presidium Meeting Of AAPSO*
6th-7th December, 1980.
Nicosia - Cyprus

General Declaration

On December 6-7, 1980, the 8th Session of the Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization was held in Nicosia, the capital of the Republic of Cyprus; in which prominent figures of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement, representatives of national-liberation movements of Afro-Asian countries as well as delegations of public representatives from Socialist countries, from international democratic organizations, and from solidarity Committees of Western Europe, took part.

The participants to the Session discussed a number of urgent issues of the national-liberation movement and of the present-day international development, defined the tasks of the Afro-Asian solidarity movement in the framework of the international democratic movement and anti-imperialist struggle.

The AAPSO Presidium is unanimous to point out that the struggle of Afro-Asian peoples, those of the Socialist countries progressive forces in Europe and America and of all peace-loving forces against imperialism and reaction for independence, freedom and social progress, for detente, disarmament and for a lasting peace on Earth is widening. In all its many-sidedness it represents a vast struggle of the majority of mankind for the irreversibility of the onward march of history, for survival, for a

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better future of each person and of each people on our planet.

The participants of the Session state that the peoples of Asia and Africa, in the present international situation, made ever more, tense as a result of ceaseless imperialist intrigues, continue with confidence their movement along the Path of strengthening of political independence and economic self-dependence of their respective countries, work for and do achieve deepening of' progressive social-economic remaking in them, ever more actively, come out for the strengthening of the principles of equality and justice in the international economic relations.

The last few years are marked by great achievements in the national-liberation struggle in Asia and Africa, and against fascist regimes in Latin America. Under the impact of the peoples' anti-imperialist revolutions the rotten monarchic regimes in Ethiopia, Iran, Afghanistan and the fascist dictatorship in Nicaragua have collapsed. The victory of the people of Zimbabwe under the leadership of the Patriotic Front is of outstanding significance for the liberation of the whole African continent, particularly in South Africa under the ANC and in Namibia under SWAPO.

An important contribution to the general anti-imperialist struggle is made by the movement of non-alignment in whose ranks the independent states in Asia, Africa and Latin America uphold their vital interests and rights against the encroachments of the imperialist policies s of diktat and exploitation.

The AAPSO Presidium highly appreciates the activity of the Organisation in the great struggle waged by the peoples of Africa and Asia for the establishment of a new and more equitable national order in the fields of economics, culture and information.

The AAPSO Presidium pledges to act for the achievement of the legitimate demands of the Third World countries in their struggle for the establishment of a new International Economic Order and the democratisation of financial, monetary and political

institutions.

The AAPSO Presidium demands that all countries effectively participate in this endeavour to face the challenge of our time: of development of the Third World countries.

The AAPSO Presidium stresses that a major factor of the indisputable successes of the task of liberation of the peoples in Asia and Africa from the fetters of colonialism and neo-colonialism is the combat solidarity and the natural unity of the forces of national-liberation movement with world Socialism, with the international democratic and workers' movement.

The peoples in Asia and Africa appraise very highly the great contribution made by the Socialist forces to the tireless struggle of all progressive and peace-loving forces for peace, detente, an end to the arms race, for freedom and social progress, for a peaceful and equitable international cooperation on the basis of respect for national independence and sovereignty on the basis of non-interference in others' internal affairs.

Having considered the present international situation, the AAPSO Presidium draws everyone's attention to the increased of late - activity of the forces of imperialist reaction which intensify their attempts to place under their supremacy the independent states and peoples, step up the arms race, grossly interfere in the other states' internal affairs. Trying to strengthen or at least to retain their positions in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America; imperialists all the more often resort to such methods as provoking of feuds and conflicts among the independent states, using of arms and mercenaries in order to support anti-people regimes, as knocking together of military-political groupings against progressive regimes and revolutionary forces. While leaning upon the local reactionary circles, imperialism is at great pains to prevent liquidation of the last remnants of racism and apartheid in South Africa and to prevent a lasting and just peace in the Middle East, their adherence to the Camp-David Accords,

rejected by the Arab peoples, is but an evidence of this.

Of special danger for the fate of peace and international security are the increased military activity and militarist preparations in the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Gulf where new American military bases are set up and warships concentrated. The American military are expanding the strategic naval base on Diego-Garcia Island, they have succeeded in getting new military facilities in Egypt and Saudi Arabia, and military bases in Oman, Somalia and Kenya, to act aggressively against the peoples of the area, strike at their national liberation movements and the progressive regimes of Democratic Yemen and Socialist Ethiopia and to tighten their grip upon the sources of oil and its transportation lanes in the Arab Peninsula and the Gulf.

The AAPSO Presidium decisively condemns the aggressive plans and hegemonist claims of U.S.A. imperialism in the Indian Ocean and in the zones of the Gulf and the Red Sea; and demands an immediate liquidation of all forms of U.S.A military presence in that strategic region of the world.

Imperialist circles try to line their coat due to the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran, which does not promise to these countries anything but mutual weakening, economic dislocation and serious losses and objectively is conducive to escalation of US interventionist plans in the Gulf.

The AAPSO Presidium calls on Iran and Iraq to achieve as soon as possible a peaceful settlement of the conflict whose continuation is only to the benefit of those who are absolutely alien to the interests of the peoples of this region.

Activisation of imperialist subversive intrigues and plotting against freedom and progress of peoples is closely connected with the course of aggressive circles of the USA and other NATO countries to undermine the process of detente and return to the times of cold war, to heighten the overall military danger.

The AAPSO Presidium stresses that the arms race stepped up

by militarist circles, hampers the economic and social process of all states, especially of the developing ones, creates considerable obstacles for a speedy overcoming of their backwardness inherited from the epoch of colonial domination.

The participants in the Meeting denounce the hegemonic aspirations, aggressive and great-power arrogant policy of the Chinese leaders towards the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The international public voices serious concern over the fact that the Chinese leaders are strengthening their political and military ties with the forces of imperialism and reaction, and in particular with the fascist junta of Chile and the South African regime, which harm the national liberation movement and the movement for peace, whipping up tension in South East Asia and Asia as a whole.

Evidence is abundant that a U.S.-Chinese-Japanese Axis is being fostered and consolidated, to create and escalate tension and destabilisation in the region.

The participants of the Session decisively condemn hostile and provocative actions and intrigues of China against the heroic Vietnam, the People's Kampuchea and Laos who with confidence go along the path of building of new, peaceful life, and express their combat solidarity with the struggle of these people which is a major factor of peace and progress on the Asian continent.

While confirming profound adherence of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization to the ideals of freedom, independence and progress of peoples, to the ideals of security and a lasting peace on Earth, the AAPSO Presidium declares a firm resolution of the Afro-Asian solidarity movement to continue a tireless activity in close unity with all anti-imperialist peace-loving forces along the following major lines:

- To increasingly support the forces waging a struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, for national liberation and social progress.

- To condemn the increasing imperialist direct or indirect interventions in the affairs of other countries.

- To achieve a speedy liquidation of the last remnants of racism and apartheid. To actively come out on the side of the people of Namibia in its legitimate struggle for a speedy achievement of national independence to demand liquidation of the apartheid system in South Africa. To render comprehensive moral, political and material support to the SWAPO of Namibia, Africa and to the ANC of South Africa who are the true and legitimate representatives of the peoples of their countries and to expose the insidious attempts of the forces of imperialism and racism to make the peoples of Namibia and South Africa align themselves to neo-colonialist decisions leading to the consolidation of the racist regimes and creating the danger of new conflicts in this region.

- To support the effort of the Front-line States of Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe in their comprehensive support to the national liberation struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia. The Presidium hails the efforts of these countries to get rid of the economic domination of the Pretoria regime.

- The legitimate Palestinian struggle for liberation against imperialism and Zionism aims not only to achieve the inalienable rights of the Arab Palestinian People to self-determination and to set-up their state on their national land, but constitutes a fundamental consolidation to the Arab National liberation movement and its political and economic independence. It puts an end to the capitalization of the hotbed of conflict in the Arab region to act against World peace. Hence, it is one of the foremost tasks of the Afro-Asian Peoples:

- To extend their comprehensive help and support to the Palestinian Liberation Organisation - the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people- and to all the Arab

patriotic progressive forces, in their struggle against imperialism, Zionism and local reaction, to liberate the occupied Arab territories, to foil the capitulatory settlement plans designed in hostility to the Arab peoples in the Middle-East and to halt the fascist practices of the Zionist entity, in the occupied territories comprising arrests, assassinations, deportations wreaking havoc with the national economy, undermining the Palestinian society, seizure and annexation of territories and the establishment of Zionist settlements on Palestinian land; to halt the military practices of the Zionist entity against the Arab peoples of Palestine and Lebanon in South-Lebanon and to stand against the rightist separatist forces allied to imperialism and Zionism in Lebanon; to call for the consolidation of the Lebanese people under the leadership of their patriotic progressive movement which is engaged in fierce battle for the unity, sovereignty, independence, Arabism and democratic development of Lebanon.

- Consolidating the Arab progressive forces of liberation will enable the Syrian Arab Region to stand firmly against imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary machinations hatched against Syria and its people and directed against its stead fastness and socialist achievements.
- The Presidium supports the struggle of the people of Cyprus for the elimination of occupation, for a solution based on the UN resolutions, for an independent, unitary, non-aligned territorially integral Cyprus free of foreign troops and foreign bases.
- The AAPSO Presidium demands the dismantlement of all military bases and the complete denuclearisation of the Mediterranean and its transformation into a lake of peace in the general interest of the peoples of the region.
- The Presidium reaffirms its total support to the Saharaoui people and calls for the opening of direct negotiations between the POLISARIO and Morocco as recommended by the decision of the O.A.U., its Ad-hoc Committee; and the recent resolution of the

United Nations.

- The Presidium launches an appeal to all the patriotic forces of Chad to put an end to the fratricidal war and to respect the cease-fire under the resolute of the transitional government of national union.
- Deeply anxious over the African policy of France, the Presidium alerts all the progressive forces on the danger of establishing and restructuring French military bases in certain African countries, particularly to the South of the Sahara and denounces the deployment of French warships in the Indian Ocean.
- To give the utmost assistance to a peaceful solution of the Iraq-Iran's conflict in order to restore peace and stability in the region.
- To redouble the vigilance of the peoples in Asia and Africa against the insidious imperialist intrigues against progressive national-liberation forces.
- To support the people of independent Afghanistan following the path of peaceful construction, to expand the campaign of international solidarity with the struggle of the people of the D.R.A.
- Efforts by progressive international forces including AAPSO which recently took various initiatives in this respect should be continued more actively for reaching a settlement in the area not by military action but through peaceful means and negotiations based on guaranteed termination of military attacks against Afghanistan.
- To try to achieve joint efforts of the peace-loving public of Asian countries in the provision of a stable peace and security on the Asian continent.
- To develop wide international solidarity actions with Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos which are subject to provocation on the part of China.
- To support the plan for national reunification and the 10

point political programme of the unified country made by D.P.R.K. regarding a confederal state with the two parts retaining their different social systems, independent of any military bloc and strictly neutral, declaring the Korean Peninsula as nuclear-free zone; and to demand the complete immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops and. lethal weapons including nuclear weapons from South Korea. The fascist suppression in South Korea against all the patriotic people demanding democracy and peaceful reunification must be stopped, all the democratic personalities arrested, imprisoned or unjustly sentenced must be immediately released and military fascist regime should be replaced by democratic government.

- To actively participate in the struggle for the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and good-neighbourliness, a zone of mutually beneficial international cooperation.
- To support the proposal of the President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar to hold a Summit Conference on the Indian Ocean as a Peace Zone, of littoral countries of the Indian Ocean and all concerned countries, in Tananarive, during 1981 or the beginning of 1982.
- The AAPSO Presidium calls for a further strengthening of the combat union and cohesion of the forces of the national liberation movement, the world Socialism, the democratic and workers' movement in a joint anti-imperialist struggle.
- The AAPSO Presidium calls on all the organisations taking part in the work of the Afro-Asian solidarity movement to actively prepare for the coming XIIIth Session of the AAPSO Council which will be held in March 1981, in Aden, capital of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and to demonstrate a combat unity of the ranks of our movement.

The Thirteenth Session Of The AAPSO Council And The Ninth Presidium Meeting*
20th-26th March 1981
Aden - Yemen
General Declaration

The 13th Council Session of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization took place in Aden, the capital of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, on March 20-26, 1981. It was attended by prominent figures of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement, delegations of the national liberation movements from Asia, Africa and Latin America, solidarity committees from the socialist countries and representatives of the progressive Western forces and international organisations.

The participants in the AAPSO Council Session express their warm gratitude to the Yemeni People and the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen for the hospitality accorded to this historic forum of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity. The contribution of the Yemeni people to the struggle for liberation, independence and world peace is highly assessed by the Afro-Asian peoples and all the progressive and democratic world public, and the convening of the present session of the AAPSO Council in Aden, bears this out.

The participants in the session have reviewed vital problems of the national liberation movement in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and the present international developments and outlined the tasks of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity

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Organization within the framework of the international democratic movement and world anti-imperialist front.

The AAPSO Council notes unanimously that the struggle of the peoples of Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, the progressive forces in Europe and America and all national liberation, patriotic and peace-loving forces against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, Zionism and reaction, for independence, freedom and social progress, for detente, disarmament and lasting peace has required new dimensions. In all its versatility, this struggle seeks to maintain the irreversible march of history, preserve life on the planet and ensure a better future for every human being and people.

The participants in the session affirm that in the present conditions when the international situation has deteriorated because of persistent imperialist intrigues, the peoples of Asia and Africa continue their confident advance along the road of strengthening their political and economic independence, deepening progressive socio-economic transformations and have proved to be still more actively committed to the principles of equality and justice in international economic relations.

The Council notes with satisfaction that the non-aligned movement which unites the independent countries and liberation movements of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean defending their vital interests and rights against the encroachments of the imperialist policy of diktat and exploitation makes a considerably more effective contribution to the world anti-imperialist, anti-racist and anti-Zionist struggle.

The Council believes that our common task is to defend the progressive development and the deepening of the anti-imperialist content of the non-aligned movement, to endeavour to consolidate its ranks in the face of hostile campaigns launched unremittingly by the imperialist forces.

The Council reaffirms that one of the major factors of the success of the unwavering struggle for the final liberation of the peoples of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean from the shackles of colonialism, neo-colonialism and backwardness, is the militant solidarity and the natural and historically inevitable alliance between the forces of the national liberation movement, the non-aligned movement, the international democratic and workers' movement and the socialist community.

The peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean highly assess the valuable contribution of the socialist community in the unwearing struggle of national liberation forces and of progressive and peace-loving forces in the world, for peace, detente, the halting of arms race, for freedom and social progress, for equitable international cooperation, respect for national independence and sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. The positive results achieved in this arduous struggle have a wholesome effect on the promotion of the national liberation movement of the peoples of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and are in their vital interests and aspirations.

In this context, the participants in the session greet the results of the historic 26th Congress of the CPSU, which took decisions that confirmed once again the USSR's invariable support for the struggle of national liberation movements and progressive and democratic forces of the world.

The seventies saw many outstanding achievements of the national liberation movements in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. The victory of the heroic Vietnamese people over US imperialism which started an inhuman and barbaric war against it and the reunion of Vietnam into a single socialist state, which became an outpost of peace and progress in South-East Asia, have become a veritable triumph of the world anti-imperialist movement. The victory of the Kampuchean people who ousted the

genocidal regime of Pol Pot Yeng-Sari-Khie Samphan has been of great significance for the cause of peace. The emergence of Bangladesh was a remarkable victory in this context. Powerful blows by revolutionary forces have crushed Portugal's colonialism and have put Angola, Mozambique and other former Portuguese colonies on the road of independent development. The pressure of people's revolutions has brought about the collapse of the corrupted monarchies in Ethiopia, Afghanistan and Iran. The victory of the people of Zimbabwe under the leadership of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front has become of great importance for the final destruction of the bastions of racism and apartheid in Namibia and South Africa. The peoples of these countries have become worthy members of the world community of nations working for genuine democracy and progress.

The AAPSO Council acknowledges the great successes achieved in the struggle against the aggressive policies of imperialism, neo-colonialism and racism. But at the same time it calls attention to the increased aggressiveness of imperialism and reaction which of late has stepped up efforts to bring under its domination the independent states and peoples, whip up the arms race and interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. Seeking to hold their positions in the countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the imperialists provoke enmity and conflicts between independent states, use arms and mercenaries to support anti-popular regimes and set up military-political alliances against progressive countries and revolutionary movements. Using local reactionary circles as its power base, imperialism does its worst to prevent the liquidation of the last strong holds of racism and apartheid in Southern Africa and the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East, through their adherence to the Camp David accords rejected and condemned by the Arab peoples.

The US imperialism is leading the imperialist forces offensive in

establishing permanent military presence in the Arab Peninsula, Egypt, Somalia, Kenya, the Bengal Bay, the littoral marine passages - the Gulf and the Red Sea - and the Indian Ocean. The US has secured military bases and facilities in Oman, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, maintained a multinational military armada in vicinity to the Arab Peninsula as part of a multinational task force ready for interference.

The strategic Diego Garcia naval base is being expanded and provided with sophisticated nuclear weapons which constitutes a threat to the peoples of Africa, Asia and the world.

The Council deems that the joint manoeuvres of the US forces conducted in Oman and Egypt constitute a serious provocation to the peoples of the region, and considers that the military provocations by Oman against Democratic Yemen, is an implementation in practice of these joint exercises.

Imperialist powers and their allies act aggressively against the peoples of the area, attempt to strike at their national liberation movements and destabilize the progressive regimes of Democratic Yemen, Socialist Ethiopia, and the Libyan Jamahireya and to tighten their grip upon the sources and transportation lines of oil in the Arab Peninsula and the Gulf. The imperialist circles make use of the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran to consolidate their military presence in the region.

The other facet of US policy is enforcing the reactionary regimes in this region through intensive armament. and encouragement of regional pacts such as the Organization of Gulf Co-operation.

Therefore, the initiatives and proposals of the Soviet Union and the Democratic Yemen, which aim at the liquidation of the US military presence in the Gulf, are in conformity with the aspirations of the peoples in this particular area.

The reactionary regimes' current policy is the alliance with imperialist powers externally and repression of the popular,

democratic forces internally.

The Council deems that oil resources exploited by capitalist monopolies in the Gulf and the Arab Peninsula area, must be used in the interests of the peoples in the region, and for their progress and put to the solution of the actual issues of the Arab nation.

The participants in the AAPSO Council Session draw the attention of the peace-loving public to the serious danger of the persistent attempts by imperialist forces to involve Afro-Asian countries in the imperialist military preparations in the Red Sea, Indian Ocean and Gulf.

The Council expresses its support to the fight of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean and condemns the escalation of the US government's aggression in that region.

The participants in the Council express particularly their solidarity with the heroic fight of the Salvador people who is fighting a hard and unequal combat against the genocidal regime of the Military Christian Democratic Junta and urges to put an end to the US military aid to the said Junta.

The meeting affirms its support to the peoples of Guatemala, Honduras and other countries of Central America that are committed to attain their definitive and comprehensive independence from the imperialist domination.

The participants in the 13th Council of AAPSO restate their denunciation of the criminal economic blockade that, during more than 20 years, has been imposed on Cuba by the US government and support the just demand of the unconditional withdrawal of the US Guantanamo Base, and to put an end to the hostile actions against the Cuban people.

The Council notes with grave concern the situation in the Caribbean Sea, where US imperialism has concentrated a huge war fleet and uses the Panama Canal Zone to carry out aggressive actions as well as economic and political

destabilization manoeuvres aimed to intimidate the progressive countries of the region and halt the progress of the existing revolutionary process.

They express their solidarity with patriots in Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia and other countries of the region that are subjected to suppression, imprisonment and torture and fight against the decision to institutionalize fascism as has happened with the blatant bogus in Chile, and uphold the fight for better future for their peoples.

The Council hails the revolutionary process in Nicaragua and Grenada and condemns the manoeuvres and aggressions against their peoples. Likewise the Council expresses its full support to Puerto Rico and Belize for their right to self-determination and national independence.

Attempts by the new US Administration and its allies to put on a footing of equality the national liberation movements which are legitimate representatives of their peoples recognized by the UN, the OAU and the Non-aligned movement, and what is called "terrorism", indicate the extreme hostility of the US to the cause of national and social liberation of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. This policy constitutes a provocation to world public opinion and is categorically condemned by the Council.

The intensification of imperialism's actions against the freedom and independence of the peoples is closely connected with the political line of the aggressive US, NATO and world Zionism circles to undermine international detente, whip up the arms race and return to the "cold war" times against the will of the peoples that has been clearly asserted in all fora and international conferences.

In the atmosphere of war hysteria, the military-industrial complex and transnational corporations of the imperialist powers have launched an offensive against the basic rights of millions of

working people - the right to work, to a peaceful and prosperous existence, social insurance and medical care - and are consistently trampling the rights and freedoms of national minorities, indigenous peoples and aborigines.

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation has always stressed that the arms race accelerated by imperialism obstructs the economic and social progress of all countries, especially the developing ones, creates considerable obstacles for the overcoming of their backwardness that was both inherited from the' colonial rule and is being furthered by the modern methods of neo-colonial exploitation and which prohibits the solution of crucial problems of socio-economic development on which mankind's progress and peaceful future depend.

The great struggle waged by the peoples of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean for the establishment of a new and more equitable international order in the fields of economics, culture and information occupies, in this context, a position of priority. The demands of the developing countries of these continents for a just equitable New International Economic Order and the democratization of financial, monetary, political and mass information institutions are of primal importance, put a challenge of our time which must be met and solved by all countries of the world.

The AAPS0 Council notes with deep concern the hegemonistic course of the Chinese leadership towards the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The international public voice serious concern over the fact the Chinese leaders are strengthening their political and military ties with the forces of imperialism and reaction, in particular with the fascist junta in Chile and the South African racists, whipping up tension in South-East Asia and Asia as a whole.

Evidence is abundant that a U.S.-Chinese-Japanese axis is being fostered and consolidated to create and escalate tension

and destabilisation in the region.

The participants in the meeting resolutely condemn the hostile and provocative actions and intrigues by China against the heroic Vietnam, the People's Kampuchea and Laos which are marching with confidence along the road of building a new and peaceful life and express their militant solidarity with their struggle which is an important factor of peace and progress in Asia.

Reaffirming its deep adherence to the great principles of Bandung and the ideals of freedom, national liberation, independence, non-alignment, security, progress of the peoples and lasting world peace, the Council of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation declares that the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement is firmly determined to continue its tireless activities in the close unity with all anti-imperialist and peace-loving forces in the following key directions:

- To render all-round support and assistance to the forces waging a struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, and Zionism for national liberation and social progress.
- To condemn direct or indirect interventions in the affairs of other countries.
- To achieve the speediest liquidation of the last remnants of racism and apartheid and, particularly in Southern Africa, to actively come out on the side of the Namibian people and support it by all means in its selfless struggle for the speediest attainment of national independence and for the dismantling of the apartheid system in South Africa, by giving the all-round moral, material and political support to the SWAPO (South West Africa Peoples' Organisation) of Namibia and the African National Congress of South Africa which are the authentic representatives of the national interests and aspirations of their peoples and to unmask the insidiousness of the forces of imperialism and racism which seek to impose on the peoples of Namibia and South Africa

solutions that would enhance the domination of the racist regimes and increase the danger of new conflicts in this region.

- To condemn the nuclear collaboration of certain Western States and Israel with the racist regime of South Africa which has resulted in the military nuclearization of that regime. In the face of the criminal acts of repeated aggression by the apartheid regime such military nuclearization magnifies the international conflict in Southern Africa and endangers the peace and security of the world.

- To consolidate the Afro-Arab solidarity in the struggle against Zionist colonialism and its ally, the racist regime in South Africa, to support the African peoples and governments which stand by the Palestinian people struggle and to stand firmly against imperialist and Israeli endeavours for the resumption of relations with Israel after the nefarious Camp David accords.

- To support Revolutionary Ethiopia and Lesotho, and other countries who firmly stand by the liberation movements in Namibia and South Africa.

- To support the firm position of the "Front-line" states: Angola, Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe in their comprehensive support to the national liberation struggle in Southern Africa, and in their efforts to get rid of the economic interference and pressures of the Pretoria regime as manifested in the establishment of the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference.

- To put an end to the neo-colonialist African policy of France, and to alert all the progressive forces on the danger of establishing and restructuring French military bases in certain African countries, particularly to the South of the Sahara and in Reunion and denounces the deployment of French warships in the Indian Ocean and support the struggle of the people of Reunion against colonialism and for self-determination.

- To call for support to the transitional government of national

unity in Chad, to condemn the attempts of imperialism and reaction to violate the freedom and stability of Chad and to consolidate the efforts of the national government for conducting general elections in the country.

- To act in solidarity with the people of the Comoro and support their legitimate struggle to liberate Mayotte from French occupation, attain their independence, unity and territorial integrity, and put an end to the mercenary regime enforced in Moroni, a regime supported and organized by the government and French multinationals since 13th May 1978.

- To help to liquidate, as soon as possible the last vestiges of Spanish colonialism in Africa, particularly in the Canary Archipelago and to stand by the Guanche people, under the leadership of the MPAIGC which wages its struggle for independence and socialism since 1964, and condemn the schemes of Spanish colonialism which persists in the refusal to decolonize the Canary Archipelago, an inseparable part of Africa. The Spanish Colonial presence in the Canary Islands and in the enclaves it still seizes in Morocco, constitutes a serious danger, especially now when the Madrid Government has officially requested affiliation to NATO for 1981. Through Spanish colonialism, NATO will establish itself in North-West Africa, so as to transform the Maghreb into a base of permanent aggression against the African continent;

- To demand that European countries which still have colonies in Africa, that is Spain and France, must decolonize, as soon as possible, what remains of their colonial empires.

- The 13th AAPSO Council, highly concerned by the danger resulting from the devastating effects of the draught which has been striking the Sahel countries for the past ten years and which undoubtedly threatens the independence of states and endangers the life of the inhabitants, pressingly urges all the National Committees and the affiliated bodies of the AAPSO to sensitize

and mobilise their public opinion over that tragedy in order to obtain material and financial assistance for these National Committees in countries whose populations are the victims of the draught.

- The Council invites the Permanent Secretariat of the AAPSO to launch an international campaign to sensitize public opinion by means of posters, forums, publications and documents, etc.. .

- The 13th AAPSO Council, conscious of the necessity developed upon the AAPSO to reflect in its actions the current political realities prevailing in Africa, to stand closely by the popular masses in order to better express their aspirations, invites the AAPSO Secretariat.

- To reinforce their links of cooperation with mass organisations in Africa, particularly with the Youth Movements, and Women and Workers Movements.

- To reinforce the action of AAPSO towards the OAU (Organisation of African Unity) so that it may contribute to instill impetus to its working committees and specialised institutions as well as its programme in the economic, political, cultural and social fields.

- The 13th AAPSO Council, highly concerned by the continuous tensions prevailing in Africa, extends its complete support to the OAU for the efforts it pursues to obtain a peaceful settlement of the dispute opposing the States of the Continent and invites it to take relevant measures to bring about a satisfactory solution to the refugee problem.

- The Council calls for the consolidation of the struggle waged by the peoples of Socialist Ethiopia for the defence of its national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

- To support the struggle of the Saharoui people, under the leadership of its sole legitimate representative the POLISARIO Front, for the recovering of their rights to self-determination, national independence and sovereignty on all their territories, and

to persistently demand the Morocco government to start direct immediate negotiations with the POLISARIO Front, as recommended by the OAU and its ad-hoc committee, the non-aligned movement and the recent resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its 35th session in 1980.

- To affirm that the Palestine question is the core and crux of the Middle East problem and that just and durable peace can only be achieved on the basis of full and unconditional Israeli pull-back from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, application of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, including the right to self-determination and to set up their independent sovereign state in Palestine in accordance with all the UN General Assembly resolutions on Palestine: to consider Security Council Resolution No. 242 as inappropriate to provide a basis for a just solution to the Palestine question and the Middle East crisis to extend all forms of aid and assistance to the PLO being the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian Arab people and all the other Arab forces in their struggle against imperialism, Zionism and local reaction, for liberation of all the occupied Arab territories, restoration of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, foiling partial solutions and submissive designs for the settlement of the Palestine question and the Middle East problem, including the Camp David and Washington Accords, the autonomy plot, the so-called Jordanian option and all schemes likely to impair Arab sovereignty and the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights.

- To condemn the racist fascist practices and the Israeli expansionist measures, including the annexation of Jerusalem, Galilee, Negev and other occupied Palestinian lands, the establishment of settlements, the operations of deportation, physical liquidation, exile, destruction of national economy, plunder of Palestinian and Arab natural resources. Israeli military aggressions against the Lebanese and Palestinian people in

South Lebanon with the US support and encouragement, considering these aggressions an act of genocide; to safeguard the legitimate interests of the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon; to call on the UN not to accept the credentials of the Israeli delegation which represents a government that violates the international law, and the UN resolutions, and which annexed Jerusalem and declared it its capital.

- To condemn the continued Israeli occupation of part of Southern Lebanon, and call for its immediate withdrawal in accordance with the Security Council resolutions, and to condemn the barbaric aggressions perpetrated by the Israeli forces, and the troops of the traitor Saad Haddad against the civilian population, the legitimate Lebanese forces, and the UNEFIL. All-out support should be extended to the Lebanese people led by the patriotic movement in its just struggle for the liberation of the occupied border strip and against the fascist isolationist project, and consolidate the militant cohesion between the Lebanese patriotic movement and the Palestinian Revolution and Syria in face of the imperialist plan in the region.

- To consolidate the Arab progressive forces, condemn the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary manoeuvres against the Arab Republic of Syria and its progressive regime and assert its entire support to its struggle against the machinations of Camp David and its allies and agents in the region, and in the realisation of its socio-economic transformations; to reassert its support to PLO, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyya, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in their steadfastness and confrontation against all the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary plans and conspiracies.

- To support the struggle waged by the peoples of Oman, Arab Republic of Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the Arab Gulf for the liquidation of US military presence, imperialist hegemony and termination of repression against democratic forces.

- To consolidate the efforts exerted by Democratic Yemen for the unity of Yemeni people in the North and the South on peaceful democratic bases, and to reaffirm solidarity with the right of the Yemeni people to defend their national sovereignty and to stand firmly against all forms of imperialist and reactionary provocations and interventions in their internal affairs.
- To support the struggle of the people of the Yemen Arab Republic under the leadership of the National Democratic Front.
- To support the struggle of the people of Cyprus for the elimination of occupation, for a solution based on the UN resolutions, to ensure to Cyprus its unity, sovereignty, non-alignment and the evacuation of foreign bases and forces.
- To give the utmost assistance to a peaceful solution of the Iraq-Iran's conflict in order to restore peace and stability in the region.
- To demand and act for the dismantlement of all imperialist, military bases and the complete denuclearisation of the Mediterranean and its transformation into a lake of peace in the general interest of the peoples of the region.
- To strengthen democracy and the direct active participation of the masses in the rule of their country and to redouble the vigilance of the peoples in Asia and Africa against the insidious imperialist intrigues against progressive national liberation forces.
- To help achieve joint efforts of the peace-loving public of Asian countries in the provision of a stable peace and security on the Asian continent.
- To develop with international solidarity actions with Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos which are subject to provocations and threats of aggression on the part of China, and to call on all AAPSO national committees to undertake action for the recognition of the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.
- To support the plan for national reunification of Korea by

founding a Confederal Republic through the establishment of a unified national government on condition that the North and the South of Korea recognize and tolerate each others' ideas and social systems, and two sides of Korea would be represented in this government on an equal footing and under which they would exercise regional autonomy respectively with equal rights and duties, to check the "two Koreas" plot of the United States and put an end to their interference in the internal affairs of Korea, to unconditionally withdraw all the US troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea, and to make the United States respond at once to the proposal of the DPRK to replace the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement, to eliminate the military fascist regime, fascist laws and repressive ruling apparatuses in South Korea, and to render all forms of support to the Korean people in their struggle to remove the danger of war on the Korean Peninsula and reunify the country by founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo.

The AAPSO Council welcomes international proposals and efforts, including the non-aligned movement, the Soviet Union and the P.D.R. of Yemen, and the concerned Afro-Asian countries proposals; aimed at ensuring peace and security in the Gulf, Red Sea and Indian Ocean area which envisage, in part, the renunciation of imperialist military bases and the deployment of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction there, non-interference in the internal affairs of the countries of the region, respect for their status of non-aligned states and for their right to their natural resources.

The Council of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization favours the liquidation of all imperialist military land, naval and air forces bases in the Indian Ocean and censures any attempts to build up foreign military presence irrespective of the pretext. The AAPSO Council upholds the demand of Mauritius that Chagos Archipelago, including the island of Diego Garcia, be returned to it.

The AAPSO Council comes out for a political settlement around Afghanistan by means of political negotiations between Pakistan and the D.R. of Afghanistan and between the D.R. of Afghanistan and Iran and for the signing of bilateral agreements between them that would guarantee the repudiation of military or any other hostile actions against the D.R. of Afghanistan and create the conditions for the withdrawal of Soviet troops which were requested by the D.R. of Afghanistan. The AAPSO Council condemns the schemes of imperialism, and reaction against independent Afghanistan. The AAPSO Council condemns the attacks of imperialism and its allies who are preventing the normalisation and stabilization concerning peace in this region.

The Council of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization appeals for the further consolidation of the militant alliance of the forces of the national liberation movement, socialist community, the international workers' and democratic movements, in their joint anti-imperialist struggle.

The AAPSO Council, in its 13th Session, after 23 years of struggle waged by the Organisation, pays tribute to the leaders and the founding-fathers of the Afro-Asian movement and the national liberation struggle, who fell, martyrs in the battlefield of honour. We reverently remember and pay homage to Salvador Allende, Mehdi Ben Barka, Houari Boumedienne, Amilcar Cabral, Kamal Jumblatt, Ernesto "Che" Guevara, Patrice Lumumba, Archbishop Makarios, Ho-Chi Minh, Eduardo Mondlane, Felix Moumie, Jawaharlal Nehru, Agostinho Neto, Marien N'guabi, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Kwame Nkrumah, Youssef el Sebai, Kamal Oudwan, Abu Ali Eyyad, Ghassan Kanafani and their many compatriots, and innumerable martyrs from the ranks of our peoples.

The AAPSO Council appeals to all organisations which participate in the Afro-Asian solidarity movement to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the movement's ranks in the struggle for the

inevitable triumph of freedom and independence of the peoples of the world, the triumph of democracy and social progress, for the implementation of the noble goals of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement.

The Tenth Meeting Of The AAPSO Presidium*
18th - 21st November 1981
Kabul - Afghanistan

The International Situation And The Current Tasks Of The AAPSO

The Tenth meeting of the Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation convened in Kabul, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, from 18 to 21 November 1981, under the aegis and in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Non-Alignment Movement.

The 10th Meeting of the AAPSO Presidium was attended by 61 countries and organisations: members of the Presidium, prominent figures of the Afro-Asian Movement, representatives of member organisations, national liberation movements, solidarity committees and progressive forces from Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbeans, Western Europe and the Socialist countries, and delegations from international democratic organisations.

The participants express their thanks and gratitude to the D.R. of Afghanistan, its Party, Government and particularly to the Afghanistan Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Committee, for their hospitality, generosity, co-operation and unstinting efforts to secure all success to the Meeting.

The Presidium pledges its total support to the achievements of the Saur (April) Revolution of 1978 and commits itself to the international duty of solidarity with the national and democratic

* AAPSO Publications (No.115)

revolution of Afghanistan and its programme of bringing about deep socio-economic changes, agrarian reform and social progressive transformations, ending feudal and neo-colonialist oppression and centuries-old suffering. The Presidium vows unreserved solidarity with the D.R. of Afghanistan, in its courageous stand against imperialist and reactionary interventions and pressures.

The fact that this meeting is held to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement has given it special political significance and has posed new tasks to review the past experiences of the anti-imperialist struggle and to draw up the necessary lessons.

Therefore, the participants in the meeting examined the vital problems of the national liberation movement and the present-day world development, and mapped out the tasks of the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement in the framework of the international democratic movement and world-wide anti-imperialist struggle.

Members of the Presidium note with feelings of profound satisfaction the steadfast and increasing contribution that the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement is making particularly after the successful and momentous 13th Council Session, in Aden, to the world revolutionary process and to the struggle of the peoples for independence, freedom, and socio-economic progress, and for a just New International Economic Order, for peace, for easing of international tension and stopping the arms race, against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, Zionism and apartheid.

* * *

The Presidium of the AAPSO notes that, through its 23 years of action, the AAPSO has a legitimate pride in its close bonds with the non-alignment movement from its very inception. The AAPSO was founded on the Bandung principles that inspire and guide both movements, and was born with the support and actual

blessing of the founding fathers of the non-aligned movement.

The Presidium is gratified to note that the movement of the non-alignment, whose origin has been inseparably linked with the national liberation struggle and the peoples' striving to attain economic and political independence, has now become a mighty international force which can and should exert an efficient positive influence on the most important events of our time, as it consists, now, of about a hundred states and three national liberation movements - SWAPO, ANC and PLO.

The Presidium stresses the necessity to defend the progressive development of the non-aligned movement on the basis of its 6th Summit in Havana of September 1979 and its Ministerial Conference in New Delhi, of February 1981, to endeavour to consolidate its ranks in the face of hostile campaigns and Schemes undertaken unremittingly by the imperialist forces.

The Presidium points out that the unity of the non-aligned movement which reflects the diversity of outlooks and systems is vitally important, now that world imperialism led by the U.S. and its allies, have launched a large-scale campaign aimed at undermining detente and fighting against the forces of peace and progress.

The 10th Presidium of the AAPSO declares that the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement is firmly determined to continue its tireless actions and struggles, in close unity with all anti-imperialist and peace-loving forces, to implement the great principles of Bandung and non-alignment, and for the ideals of freedom, national liberation, indepedence, security, progress and lasting peace.

The Presidium notes with serious concern that the world now stands at the crossroads of a grave international situation that is fraught with hazardous consequences affecting the peace and security of our planet. The deepening crisis of imperialism especially of US and British imperialism has seen the emergence to power of the most reactionary and adventurous forces with

dangerous fascist tendencies. The Reagan Administration, nostalgic for the post World War II era characterised by the policy of cold war, gun boat diplomacy and the application of diktat to muffle and change the will of the peoples of the developing world in order to solve its trenchant problems at the expense of these peoples as well as the working people of the capitalist world. For the realization of its selfish designs it has unfolded an aggressive global strategy characterised by increasing intervention, war by proxy, threats of escalation of the arms race and an irresponsible and adventurous political stance which manifests a lack of mature diplomacy and concern for the future of mankind. It has opted for confrontation rather than dialogue, sowing of conflict rather than fostering of mutual co-operation.

The Presidium further underscores that this policy of international plunder and aggression unleashed by imperialism is strengthened and in turn give sustenance by its reactionary allies and tools like the fascistic regimes of Latin America, Africa and Asia which are acting, in full collusion with imperialism against the aspiration of their own peoples. The expansion of its military bases, the positioning of the Rapid Deployment Force, the invasion of the territories of independent countries through its proxies are some of the links in the chain of imperialist contrivances and machinations. The AAPSO fully realizes that these concerted moves of imperialism pose serious danger especially to the freedom and independence of all peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America in general and the victorious course of the national liberation movements and progressive and democratic regimes of these continents in particular.

Cognisant of this impending danger, the AAPSO urgently calls upon all its members and other progressive and democratic forces to close ranks to withstand and repel this grave challenge.

Peace and security cannot be built on weapon's systems or sustained by a precarious balance of terror or any doctrine of

strategic superiority.

The Presidium stresses the totally absurd idea of localised so-called tactical nuclear weapons and limited nuclear war. The Reagan recent declaration, that a limited nuclear war in Europe is not to be discarded and that it is even possible without necessarily leading to confrontation with the Soviet Union", is absolutely inacceptable and forebode the most sinister results. Once nuclear weapons are used on one front, their use would not remain either localised or limited.

Plans for deploying new American medium-range missile in Europe and for the amassing deployment and the prospects of actually using the neutron bomb revive the sinister climate of cold war, whip up the arms race and enhance the danger of thermonuclear catastrophe. These and the plans to establish rapid deployment forces in the Middle East, Horn of Africa and Indian Ocean are fraught with the most serious threat to peace and security of all mankind.

The Israeli Zionists and South African racists are rapidly escalating the arms drive and accelerating the development of nuclear weapons, which presents an enormous danger for independent Arab, Asian and African countries.

The export of armaments to developing countries has even worsened the already maldistribution and misuse of their natural resources, and their potential scientific and industrial capacity which could be diverted into civilian production to raise the very low living standard of the people of the Third World countries to at least the minimum requirement.

In these conditions the AAPSO Presidium

- resolutely condemns the unprecedented arms race unleashed by the U.S.A. and NATO, the increase in the military budgets and "cold war" psychosis; and expresses its firm solve to join the world-wide campaign against the development and deployment on the territories of other states of new systems of

nuclear missile weapons and against the development and manufacture of the neutron bomb anywhere in the world;

- calls on all countries, in particular, Asian and African nations to display vigilance in the face of a highly dangerous escalation of military preparations by the U.S. in the Gulf area, Horn of Africa, Indian Ocean, and the South Atlantic;
- fully supports the appeal of the non-aligned conference of foreign ministers in New Delhi to envigorate efforts aimed to avert the danger of a new war;
- calls for the de-nuclearization of Africa, the Middle East and for the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea, the Western Pacific; and declaring them as zones of peace;
- emphasizes that the rapproachment of U.S. imperialists, Japanese militarists and international reactionaries constitutes a threat to the security and stability in South East Asia;
- demands the dismantling of all military bases and the withdrawal of occupation troops on foreign territories, the prohibition of all testing, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons and their total destruction in all regions of the world, and demands general and complete disarmament;
- calls for immediate initiation of negotiations so as to reach armaments' limitation and reduction; and wishes success to the Madrid Meeting;
- opposes the creation of all new military alliances and demands the simultaneous dissolution of all existing military blocs;
- condemns the rapidly growing military potentials of racist South Africa and Zionist Israel, and their active pursuit to acquire nuclear weapons, and calls on the democratic public to resolutely expose these states' complicity in the implementation of the USA's neo-colonialist line.

The Presidium calls for a wide mobilisation of efforts and support towards the success of the Second Special Session of the General Assembly of the U.N. to be held in New York next June

1982.

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The Presidium notes that despite the fact that most of the developing countries have now attained political independence, they are still subjected to economic and in many cases political influence by world capitalism. International development strategies have so far been disappointing and inadequate for overcoming under-development.

Neo-colonialism and TNCs are blocking the development efforts of the developing countries and foiling all attempts to establish a more just, equitable and democratic alternative to the existing International Economic Order which is the product of the development of world capitalist system.

It notes that the present world capitalist crisis makes the development process of the Third World countries more difficult and imposes the necessity to counteract the attempts of the world capitalist system to transfer the worst consequence of its crisis to the developing countries.

It notes that the transnational capital is engaged in modifying the process of reproduction to find a way out at the expense of the working broad masses of both the developed and developing countries.

The Presidium underlines the dangers of such subtle attempts as the recent report of the Brandt Commission which seeks outlets to the crisis of the developed imperialist countries through devising policies for further imperialist integration of the Third World countries into world capitalism, not only in the sphere of foreign trade and extractive industries but also in the sphere of production and particularly in manufacturing industries.

The "North-South" Summit, held in Can-cun in October 1981, demonstrated that this basic strategy of the advanced industrial imperialist countries, remains basically unchanged, though only a modified formula of the global negotiations is reluctantly accepted

by them.

The peoples of the developing countries now demand substantial changes in the system of international relations, a prompt reorganisation of the international monetary system and the transfer of technology and financial resources. They demand a New International Economic Order that supports and reinforces their development efforts, and not, as conceived by capitalist countries, reorganisation of international economic structures to enhance capitalistic accumulation in favour of TNCs.

It is now generally recognised that development in the developing countries must be a deliberate and a rational process taking into consideration the objective and concrete realities of the present day situation. A development strategy should be capable of mobilizing, and chanelling the available resources in the right direction, which does not only mean to have the necessary technical and institutional means but above all to create the socio-economic and political conditions that would facilitate the liberation and better utilization of the available resources.

The Presidium exposes and warns against attempts through pressure and protracted negotiations to distort the concept of a New International Economic Order.

It deplores the attempts to weaken the co-operation and unity of action of the developing countries in their efforts to realize collective self- reliance.

The Presidium concurs with and endorses the AAPSO option for the socialist oriented line for development as the only sound and beneficial course, not only dictated by the inevitable course of history, but also, and necessarily, based on practical experience.

The Presidium re-confirms the AAPSO's development strategy, derived from the resolutions of its constitutional bodies, and conclusions of the socio-economic meetings, seminars and conferences it organised, is based on three main principles :

a) the struggle for democratic progressive development

strategies oriented towards the widest participation of the broad masses, and the achievement of economic independence, sovereignty and national control of the national wealth, and oriented against all forms of neo-colonialist exploitation and aggression.

b) the struggle for the establishment of a more just, equitable and democratic alternative of the existing International Economic Order through the introduction of structural changes in the economic and trade relations. It is important in this context to stress the necessity of intensifying the struggle against TNCs, of expanding economic relations with socialist countries, of reducing economic and other forms of dependence on capitalist countries, and of promoting individual and collective self-reliance and economic co-operation among the developing countries.

c) the struggle for the relaxation of international tension and for total and comprehensive disarmament as a necessary prerequisite of any successful socio-economic progress of the developing countries.

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AAPSO Presidium deems that developments around Afghanistan have been and still are the outcome of the scheme instigated by the imperialist forces and which led to the well-known developments in Afghanistan. Hence, the removal of these causes and factors will restore the situation to normal, put an end to prevailing state of tension and enable all the peoples of the region to live in peace so that the April Revolution of Afghanistan may proceed to realize its principles of freedom, democracy and social justice and achieve economic development for the welfare and prosperity of its people.

The AAPSO Presidium considers it necessary to conduct bilateral or trilateral negotiations between Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran. These negotiations may be held directly or with the U.N. participation, and of reliable international guarantors, with the aim

of working out an agreement stipulating, as an integral part, reliable international guarantees with regard to the cessation and non-recurrence of armed or other interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan so as to reach a political settlement and the return of the situation around the country to the normal state of affairs; to ensure regional stability and tranquility and to proceed towards the development of friendly relations and multi-faceted mutually beneficial co-operation based on good neighbourliness and common cultural traditions between Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan. Such conditions which guarantee the security and tranquility around Afghanistan will lead by necessity to the withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingent as repeatedly announced by the governments of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

In South Asia the resumption of massive arms supplies to Pakistan is creating acute tension and endangering peace and security in the region.

The 10th AAPSO Presidium views with deep concern the situation in South East Asia where tension continues to prevail. The national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea continue to be threatened. Peace and security of other countries in the region are not yet secured.

Fundamentally, the Indochinese and ASEAN countries have in common the aspiration that peace and stability should prevail in the region, and that without harmony and co-operation between them, there can no relaxation of tension in the situation. The countries of South East Asia have no alternative but to put aside their differences and proceed, on the basis of peaceful co-existence and mutual respect for each other's legitimate interests, to discuss solutions of the most urgent problems, to ensure peace and stability along the Kampuchea-Thai border and Lao-Thai border, to settle the disputes regarding the South China Sea, and eventually, sign agreements of non-aggression so that

the South East Asia may be a region of peace and stability. Similarly there should be bilateral treaties of peaceful coexistence and good neighbourliness between Vietnam and China and Laos and China.

The Presidium deems that the reason of this tension resides in the aggressive and interventionist policy pursued by the U.S. imperialists, the Japanese militarists and international reactionaries which now takes a military turn and constitutes a series danger to world peace, and the independence, stability and security of South East Asian peoples.

The Indochinese countries, by their policy of peace, independence, friendship and international co-operation, constitute a positive factor for the preservation of peace and stability in this strategic region of the world.

The peoples of this region share historic traditions of solidarity and mutual assistance in their struggle for national independence.

The Presidium appreciates the policy aiming at resolving the controversial issues in the region by peaceful means, through consultations and dialogue; policy that has been announced by the statements of Conferences of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the three countries: Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, during the recent years.

The Presidium highly appreciates and supports the good-will stance of the Government and People of Vietnam to keep on the negotiations on relations between Vietnam and China, to advance towards the normalization of those relations. The Presidium rejects any threats and pressures against Indo-Chinese countries.

The Presidium welcomes the new initiatives presented by the recent session of the U.N. General Assembly by the P.D.R. of Laos on the "principles ruling the relationships of peaceful co-existence between the two groups of countries of Indochina and ASEAN" with a view to construct a South East Asia of peace,

stability, friendship and co-operation.

Peace and security in the two groups of countries in the region are inseparable. To overcome difficulties, and to engage in dialogue on the basis of equality, of mutual respect and legitimate interests of each side according to the principle that the affairs of South East Asia must be settled by the countries of South East Asia themselves, without any side imposing its view on the other side and without any foreign interference are the concrete and realistic path which would lead to peace and stability of the region, the path which respond to the interests of the South East Asia peoples and world peace, in full conformity with the Charter of the UN and the principles of the non-alignment movement.

The Presidium calls on the ASEAN countries to initiate consultations and dialogue with the Indochina countries with a view to relax tension, and promote mutual understanding to realise this ardent aspiration of the South Asian peoples: peace, independence and prosperity.

The Presidium calls for the expulsion of the Polpot clique from the United Nations, for the recognition of the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and for the return of the rightful seat to it in the U.N.

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The Presidium took serious note of the increasing militarisation of Japan and the new threats it poses to the peace and security of Asia and the Pacific. Expanding on the existing Japan-U.S. military alliance, Japanese reactionary circles are today embarking on an ambitious new role for Japan to play as a giant military power totally flouting and violating the Japanese peace.

The Presidium condemns the Japanese - U.S. military collaboration on the basis of which Japan is the home port for the U.S. Seventh Fleet, and provides free sorties for the ships of this fleet. Similarly, Okinawa is the base of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces for the North-East Asia and the Pacific area.

The Presidium calls upon all Afro-Asian peoples to give full support to the Japanese people and their progressive movements who are today struggling against this rising menace of the revival of Japanese militarism and the arms build-up, on the one hand, and for the dismantling of the U.S. military bases from Japan, for a total ban on the possession or stationing of any nuclear weapons, and for a genuine independence, neutrality and non-alignment of Japan.

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The Presidium supports the efforts made by the D.P.R. of Korea for the peaceful reunification of Korea according to the new proposal, and strongly demands that U.S. authorities discard the "two Koreas" policy, "unconditionally withdraw all the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons, from South Korea and respond to the proposal of the D.P.R. of Korea to replace the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement at once".

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The Presidium appreciates and supports the proposal of the Mongolian People's Republic to conclude a convention on mutual non-aggression and non-use of force in relations between the states of Asia and Pacific and to convene to this end a conference of the countries of this region to which all states – permanent members of the UN Security Council could be invited.

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The 10th AAPSO Presidium views with the utmost concern the extremely grave situation of U.S. arms escalation in the Indian Ocean. the Gulf and the Red sea, which not only threatens the sovereignty and security of the peoples in the lands around the Indian Ocean, but will also engulf the world in a thermo-nuclear war.

Diego Garcia, has been developed as the largest naval, air and military base with one of the largest nuclear capabilities outside the United States, and has been made the new Headquarters of

the U.S. 5th Fleet. While expanding the existing U.S. military bases, new military bases and facilities are being strengthened in the region. The U.S. has brought into being the Rapid Deployment Forces, for the express purpose of military intervention in the countries of the region, which is part of the global strategy of the U.S. imperialism, to protect its economic interests and in an attempt to strike the patriotic and progressive regimes.

The Presidium condemns the recent military manoeuvres and exercises especially directed and designed to destabilize the progressive regimes of the Libyan People's Arab Socialist Jamahiriya, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and Socialist Ethiopia and other African and Arab national liberation movements and progressive regimes, carried on by the U.S.A. along with some Arab and African states and which also serve the aims of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

The Presidium affirms its support to the liberation struggle of the maubere people, that under the leadership of its revolutionary vanguard - the FRETILIN, leads a heroic struggle against foreign domination.

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The Presidium condemns the attempts of U.S. and its allies to postpone the UN Conference on the Indian Ocean which was scheduled to be held in Colombo in August 1981, and demands that this Conference must be held, in accordance with the call of the New Delhi Non-Alignment Ministerial Conference.

The Presidium reiterates the demand of all Indian Ocean littoral states as embodied in the UN Resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 1971 to declare the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace as originally proposed by Sri-Lanka.

The Presidium welcomes the initiative made by P.D.R of Yemen, by the USSR, and by Madagascar, on the Indian Ocean, the Gulf and the Red Sea as zones of peace, and regards them as constructive and positive contributions to peace and stability in the

Indian Ocean, the Gulf and the Red Sea and supports the initiative of the President of Madagascar to convene a Summit Conference of all concerned countries in Madagascar for the same purpose.

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The 10th AAPSO Presidium notes with satisfaction that the newly independent African countries had scored victories; they had consolidated their independence and they made head-way in the process of promoting socio-economic progress.

In Southern Africa, as an integral part of its global strategy, the new U.S. Administration has come out openly to defend and support racist South Africa. Thus, with the connivance, protection and support of imperialism led by the U.S.A., the expansionist apartheid regime is intensifying its efforts to bolster its puppets and terrorise the people of Namibia, to bantustanize South Africa, to crush the growing liberation struggle, and to destabilize the Front-line states.

In Namibia this has led to a display of arrogant intransigence a dogged refusal to implement the U.N. Security Council Resolution 435; and even a more widespread repression.

The contact group of five countries, led by the U.S.A, is canvassing new proposals in terms of which SWAPO is required to be bound to constitutional principles and a pre-determined foreign policy which an independent Namibia must follow, with the aim of protecting imperialist interests and securing the continued exploitation of the people of Namibia and the plunder of their natural resources. These proposals are a serious deviation from UN Security Council Resolution 435 and would make a farce of Namibian independence.

The Presidium strongly condemns these dilatory manoeuvres and supports the position of SWAPO.

The Presidium calls upon the Afro-Asian states and peoples to stand firmly and actively on the side of SWAPO, the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people and to render

them all-round moral, political and material assistance in their heroic and noble struggle for national liberation.

In South Africa itself, the racist regime is pressing on with the establishment of bantustans. Schemes for the entrenchment of the apartheid system, mass evictions and removals have grown in scope and scale. Arrests, detentions, police brutality and persecution of political opponents remain a daily experience.

The freedom fighters of the ANC, to whose banners the people of South Africa are flocking in ever-increasing members, have already demonstrated their growing fighting capacity by systematic attacks on vital nerve-centres of the racist power structure.

The Presidium fully supports the liberation struggle of the people of South Africa led by the ANC and reaffirms the urgent need for the total isolation of the apartheid regime in the political, diplomatic, military, nuclear, economic, cultural, technological and sports fields.

The Presidium requests its affiliated organisations and support groups and appeals to all states to carry out practical and concrete measures to implement the conclusions of the international conference on sanctions against South Africa convened by the United Nations and the O.A.U. in Paris from 20 to 27 May 1981, by adopting effective measures against the racist South African regime, including economic sanctions and an effective arms and oil embargo.

A number of overt and covert forms is being used in the attempts to destabilize the Front-line states. These include economic sabotage, terrorism, covert military operations and open but undeclared war.

In the People's Republic of Angola it has resorted to the most brutal vengeance, to aggression and indiscriminate attacks, followed by a full-scale invasion causing extensive loss of human life and damage to property. Many towns and villages were

completely destroyed. The racist criminals still occupy parts of Southern Angola. In the U.N. Security Council, condemnation of the brutal aggression and the continued violation of Angola's sovereignty and territorial integrity was frustrated by the exercise of the U.S. veto.

In the Republic of Mozambique, following the adventurous attack on Matola, numerous South African agents who could commit economic, political and military sabotage were uncovered. Counter-revolutionary mercenaries financed, trained and equipped by Pretoria are sent to carry out acts of sabotage. Soldiers of the regular South African army have been killed leading counter-revolutionaries near Beira, deep in Mozambique territory. Damage to installations and infrastructure strikes heavy blows at the economy and reconstruction efforts of the young people's republic.

Terrorists trained and based in South Africa carry out sabotage operations in Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Zambia. The apartheid regime is still openly recruiting mercenaries to operate in the Front-line states, principally from the Western countries.

The Presidium condemns and denounces all these destabilizing actions. The resurgence and escalation of apartheid aggression against the neighbouring states is a challenge to Africa and the world. It must be met.

The Presidium recognises with appreciation the sacrifices borne and the unflinching commitment of the Front-line states to the liberation of Namibia and South Africa in the face of continued imperialist plots.

The Presidium demands the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all South African troops from the territory of the People's Republic of Angola and calls upon the entire international community, the U.N., the O.A.U., the Non-aligned Movement and the peoples of every country to rally to and extend urgent support and solidarity, political and material, to the governments and

peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho and the other Front-line states.

The Presidium notes with satisfaction the role being conducted by the OAU for the liberation of South Africa and Namibia, in particular the new strategy for liberation as declared in the Lome and all other relevant declarations and warmly welcomes the effort of the OAU Committees of 19 to inform the international community about the real situation in Southern Africa and to mobilise support, material and financial assistance for the Front-line states.

Having thoroughly considered the questions of the Western Sahara and in the light of the latest developments in the situation;

Considering the inalienable right of the Sahraoui people to self-determination and to independence in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and the OAU and the pertinent resolutions of the OAU and the Non-Aligned Movement;

Recalling the resolution of AAPSO's conference held in Aden (PDRY) March 20-25, 1981;

The AAPSO Presidium, adopting as its own the U.N. resolution of the decolonisation commission on the Western Sahara:

- expresses its deep preoccupation as regards the military escalation in the zone of the Western Sahara, a logical result of the will of the Moroccan government to pose all forms of obstacles to the peace process initiated by the OAU on one hand, and on the other, by the will of the U.S.A., to intervene militarily by the side of the Rabat regime in its colonial and expansionist war against the Democratic Arab Republic of the Sahara and its heroic Saharoui people that struggles energetically for the gaining of their national independence and territorial integrity.
- The Presidium is alarmed by the U.S.-Moroccan attempt to extend the battle field, to denaturalise and internationalise a simple problem of decolonisation, already recognised as such by

the international community.

Inspired by its lofty ideals of peace, the Presidium condemns the U.S. intervention, whether direct or indirect, in the North-West of Africa which constitutes a grave obstacle to the process of peace initiated by the OAU and risks to have serious repercussions on peace and stability in the region.

- greets and congratulates the government of the Arab Democratic Republic of the Sahara, the POLISARIO Front and the Saharoui People for the great efforts extended for a solution that would ensure peace and stability in this region;
- greets the victories achieved by the Saharoui People on the diplomatic level as well as on the battlefield, thanks to the valiant action of the Saharoui popular Army of Liberation;
- firmly supports the heroic struggle of the Saharoui people under the leadership of its sole and legitimate representative, the POLISARIO Front, to reconquer its inalienable rights to self-determination, to national independence and to its territorial integrity;
- urges the Moroccan government to start immediate and direct negotiations with the POLISARIO Front and the Government of the Arab Democratic Republic of the Sahara for a cease-fire and to hold a popular referendum in conformity with the recommendations of the "OAU Implementation Committee" and with the last Resolution of the U.N. decolonisation commission adopted on November 9, 1981;
- expresses its full solidarity, its moral, political and material support to the Saharaoui people for the great efforts it ceaselessly deploys in the political, social, health and education fields in the refugees camps;
- calls upon all the organisations and countries, members of AAPSO, to extend their concrete material aid to the Saharaoui people and its vanguard, the POLISARIO Front;
- resolves to send a delegation on a visit to the Democratic

Arab Republic of the Sahara to better inform AAPSO's Presidium and its Permanent Secretariat on the real situation in the Western Sahara.

The Presidium:

- extends its support to the OAU for the efforts it pursues to obtain a peaceful settlement of the disputes opposing the states of the continent and invites it to take relevant measures to bring about a satisfactory solution to the refugees problem.
- condemns the nuclear collaboration of certain Western States and Israel with the racist regime of South Africa which has resulted in the military nuclearisation of that regime.
- urges the consolidation of the Afro-Arab Solidarity in the struggle against Zionist colonialism and its ally, the racist regime, in South Africa, to support the African peoples and governments which stand by the Palestinian people struggle and to stand firmly against imperialist and Israeli endeavours for the resumption of relations with Israel.
- strongly rejects the labelling of national liberation struggles as international terrorism.
- expresses its satisfaction at the normalization of the political situation and the stability obtained in the Republic of Uganda People's Congress Party and government under the leadership of President Milton Obote for the positive steps being taken to rehabilitate and reconstruct Uganda, socially, economically and politically.

The Presidium greets the OAU Commission of 7, which met in Nairobi on the subject of Mayotte. It calls on the French government to take the measures that; would secure to the Comoro Archipelago its territorial integrity. The Presidium supports the action of the Comoro people with view of putting an end to the usurpation of power by the mercenaries and their puppets. We urge the release of all political detainees.

The Presidium notes with concern the renewal of civil hostilities

in Chad, which had known peace, after a long time, only after the request of its legitimate Woddy's government requested Libyan troops to put down the rebellion. The Presidium notes with satisfaction the prompt withdrawal of the Libyan troops thereby refuting the allegations of the Franco-U.S. reactionary African states and demonstrating the anti-imperialist line of Libya.

The Presidium supports the O.A.U. for setting up a Peace Keeping Force to bring an end to the fratricidal war in Chad.

The Presidium condemns the intervention of Senegalese troops into Gambia to impose a discredited government on the Gambian people.

The Presidium expresses its indignation and strongly denounces the training of Liberation troops by the notorious "Green Beret" squad of the U.S. army; another manifestation of U.S. imperialism determination to destabilise progressive governments opposed to U.S. machinations.

The Presidium is disturbed at the alarming increase in the frequency of racial attacks against people of African/Asia descent in Britain. It condemns unreservedly the reactionary racial law recently passed in the British Parliament and holds the Thatcher government responsible for this iniquitous law. It pledges its support and solidarity to all progressive forces fighting against racism in Britain.

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The Presidium affirms its support to the liberation struggle of the Maubere people, that under the leadership of its revolutionary vanguard - the FRETILIN - leads a heroic struggle against foreign domination.

The Presidium notes the explosive situation in the Middle East, and affirms the following:

The Middle East problem was, and still is, one of the most explosive problems that threatens world peace because of Israel's continuing occupation of Arab territories, the continuing

deprivation of the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights and the conspiracies of imperialism in the region.

The US aggressive strategy in the region concentrates on setting up a military alliance - hostile to the interests of the Arab nation - between the US, on the one hand, and the reactionary Arab countries and Israel on the other. This alliance is based on the so-called strategic consensus under the pretext of standing up to the Soviet Union. Issuing forth from this, the agreement for strategic collaboration between the US and Israel was lately announced, as a basis for the implementation of this principle. This consecrates Israel as the striking force of imperialism in the region. This process was coupled by an intensification and expansion of the military, imperialist, U.S. build-up and presence in the region and by the covert threats of direct US intervention in the region.

This new aggressive strategy is manifested in the escalation of Israeli attacks on Southern Lebanon and Beirut, in the provocations of U.S. militarism against the Libyan Jamahiriya, and in the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor, in the so-called "crisis of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon", in the intensification of suppression and terrorism inside the occupied Palestinian territory, as well as in the acceleration of the process of setting up settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

Fast developments have took place in the region which created a more complicated situation that requires more vigilance and a more detailed and deeper analysis.

In the face of all these designs, the Arab liberation movement continues to stand firm. This is manifested in the stead fastness of the National Lebanese Movement and the Palestinian revolution against the imperialist Israeli aggression and the fascist conspiracy, in the growing uprising of the Palestinian masses in the occupied territory against the occupation, in the conclusion of the Aden Tripartite Treaty, and in the rising international status of

the PLO. It is also manifested in the continuation of the masses struggle for democratic freedoms, as well as in the declaration of unity project between the Jamahiriya and Syria.

The Presidium, therefore, decides that:

1- A just peace in the Middle East cannot be attained except on the basis of the full unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and of securing of the Palestinian Arab people inalienable rights, especially its right to return to its home, to self-determination, and to set its independent national state on its soil, under the leadership of the PLO, its sole legitimate representative, and the implementation of the resolutions of all the U.N. General Assembly as regards the Palestinian cause.

2- to reject all initiatives and capitulatory projects complementary to the two Camp David Accords, and (which AAPSO had analysed and in regard to which AAPSO has defined its position, in its previous decisions) which ignore the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the fact that the PLO is its sole legitimate representative.

3- to assert that the problem of the Middle East came to being with the setting-up by colonialism and Zionism of the state of Israel in the heart of the Arab homeland and the expulsion of the Palestinian Arabs from their land and preventing them by the force of arms from practising their national inalienable rights on their land:Palestine.

4- all partial agreements and isolated treaties pertaining to the Palestinian cause and the Arab-Israeli conflict constitute a flagrant violation of the rights of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation and to the principles of the Charter of the U.N. and its resolutions, and International law. The PLO has the right to pursue its struggle in its various political and military forms in view of realising the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

5- the Presidium supports the rejection and the resistance by

the Palestinian people of the administrative autonomy project which aims, in fact, to liquidate the Palestinian cause and consolidate the Zionist occupation and to obliterate the national identity of the people and quell its struggle.

6- to highly appreciate the Soviet Union decision to raise the diplomatic representation of the PLO to the status of embassy which is a specific step on behalf of the Soviet Union to consolidate the national and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

7- to invite all states of the world to recognise the PLO and greet the recent step of the Greek government to recognise it before the end of 1981.

8- To reassert support to the UN resolution which considers Zionism as a form of racism and condemn the Zionist expansionist policy in the occupied territories, in particular, the annexation of Jerusalem; and to denounce the terrorist and racist practices against the Palestinian masses in the occupied land and especially the setting up of settlements, confiscating the land, expelling the inhabitants, destroying homes, violating freedoms and religious creeds, casting thousands of citizens in prison without trial, renunciating the Geneva agreements pertaining to the prisoners of war and the illegitimate exploitation of the natural resources of the occupied Palestinian territories.

The Presidium considers the annexation of Jerusalem and the announcement that it is the eternal capital of Israel nil and void and calls upon the countries of the whole world to reject it and to denounce it.

9- To greet the struggles of the Palestinian masses on the occupied territories in resisting the Zionist occupation and its schemes and terrorism and its rallying around the leadership of the PLO and to call for the intensification of the solidarity campaign with their struggles.

10- The Presidium strongly condemns the aggressive policy

of the US against the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and considers it a violation of the principles of the UN Charter. The Presidium condemns the US material, military and political assistance to Israel as well as its fascist practices and constant veto in the interest of Israel at the Security Council. The Presidium strongly condemns the US decision to hand over the militant Zeyad Abu Ein to the Israeli authorities.

The 10th AAPSO Presidium decides:

1- to express full solidarity with the struggle waged by the Lebanese people under the leadership of the Lebanese National movement, to safeguard Lebanon's unity, independence, Arab affiliation and democratic development against the criminal Israeli aggressions, particularly against southern Lebanon, and against the fascist plan to turn Lebanon into a sectarian anti-Arab state.

2- to stress that the severance by the Lebanese isolationist forces of their relations with Israel is a precondition to any national conciliation in Lebanon.

3- to consolidate the militant cohesion of the Lebanese National movement, the Palestinian Revolution and Syria in confronting the US imperialist conspiracy, the Zionist aggression and the schemes of the Lebanese fascist forces.

4- to extend all forms of political, material and humanitarian support to the Lebanese National movement and the masses of the Lebanese people who are the victims of the Zionist aggression, particularly in southern Lebanon.

The AAPSO 10th Presidium:

1- condemns the terrorist and oppressive practices against the masses and their progressive forces in a number of Arab countries and calls for securing democratic freedoms and political and trade union rights to the people, and deems that the national progressive Arab forces, once they close their ranks and establish a patriotic front on a basis of equality in a climate of democracy

can repel and defeat the imperialist, Zionist, reactionary assaults on the region. The drawing up of a strategy for the Arab forces of liberation has become now an urgent necessity more than ever before, so as to counter the unified strategy of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

2- deems that support should be given to the Arab masses, with their progressive and democratic forces, in their rejection of and resistance against all the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies and designs; and that all forms of struggle should be launched for protecting the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights and the Arab nation's anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist objectives.

3- appreciate the role of the Arab steadfastness and confrontation front, with a view to facing up to imperialist-Zionist schemes.

4- greets Syria for its firm and steadfast stands in resisting the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary designs and strongly denounces the conspiracies hatched by the US imperialism, racist Zionism and reaction against the progressive regime in Syria, and all attempts at internal subversion linked with these conspiracies, and reaffirms the consolidation of the alliance between Syria, the Palestinian Revolution and the National Lebanese Forces.

5- confirms full solidarity with the Libyan Jamahiriya in its confrontation to the Zionist imperialist reactionary aggression, and supports the Libyan people in its struggle to consolidate its sovereignty over its territory as well as its territorial waters and against the imperialist provocations, especially against the recent US aggression against the Gulf of Sert, and supports the struggle and stands of the P.D.R. of Algeria and the P.D.R. of Yemen against imperialism, reaction and Zionism. The Presidium declares its support to the Aden Agreement, between the People's Socialist Arab Libyan Jamahiriya and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and Socialist Ethiopia, as an answer to the imperialist reactionary alliance in the region.

6. vigourously condemns the recent attack by Israel on the Iraqi nuclear reactor and rejects the Israeli allegations that the development of such nuclear plants in Arab countries constitute a danger to its security.

The Presidium notes that US imperialism and reaction are stepping up their aggressive activity in order to tighten their grip on the Gulf region and the Arab Peninsula.

The imperialist policy in the region focuses on:

- declaring the Gulf a zone of vital interest to the US and its allies which "entitles" it to direct military intervention in order to stem any drive that affects these interests, and to maintain its plunder of oil resource.
- planting a network of sophisticated military bases and radar systems - particularly in Saudi Arabia, Oman and Bahrein – which constitute a basic part of the direct military force in the region of the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea together with the Fifth Fleet and the formation of rapid deployment force designed to carry out rapid military operations to face any potential development.
- encouraging the policy of unjustified militarization and armament in the region in a manner that drains the oil revenues and helps imperialism mitigate its own aggravated economic crises.
- creating and encouraging local agents as a framework for military and security alliances between the reactionary regimes in the region, as well as consolidating and reinforcing the ruling reactionary regimes in order to be able to strike at the national movement in the region and conspire against the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.
- The Presidium denounces the US policy in the region and expresses its support for the struggle of the peoples of the Gulf and Arab Peninsula for the elimination of the bases of imperialism domination in the region, including the dismantling of military bases, and affirms the political independence of the Gulf states,

the release of their oil wealth so as to use it in the interests of their people, and for ensuring democratic freedom.

The Presidium reasserts the initiatives of the Soviet Union and the P.D.R. of Yemen in connection with the Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

The Presidium:

1- expresses its solidarity with the Omani revolution, led by the People's Front for the liberation of Oman, in its struggle against the imperialist presence in Oman. The Presidium calls on all the forces of liberation, progress, and socialism to provide it with all forms of support.

2- supports the demands of the National Movement of Bahrein for the establishing of public freedoms and the restoration of parliamentary life on genuine democratic bases.

3- expresses solidarity with the national forces in Saudi Arabia in their struggle for eliminating the military US presence, for bringing about democratic freedom and respect of democratic rights.

4- further expresses its solidarity with the National Democratic Front in the Arab Yemen Republic in its struggle for national sovereignty and the attainment of peace, progress and democracy.

5- holds the view that the Arab Liberation Movement is called upon to increase its militant ties and relationship with the forces of progress and democracy in the world, especially the socialist community and the Soviet Union in particular which always adopt a principled and unequivocal stand by the side of the Arab peoples' struggle.

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The Presidium:

1- Stresses that the war between Iran and Iraq weakens the two countries and that none will benefit from it, save the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. Hence, the Presidium calls

upon the two countries to put an immediate end to this war, to solve the controversial issues by peaceful means and to mutually respect the two parties' rights in accordance with international law.

2- Expresses hope that the non-alignment group, the UN and all international mediators would play an effective role in stopping the fight and creating an atmosphere proper for peacefully solving the issue in order to deprive the imperialist and reactionary forces of the opportunity to exploit the war in their interest, especially in the Gulf region.

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The 10th AAPSO Presidium expresses its full solidarity with the struggle of the people of Cyprus for elimination of occupation, complete independence, unity, territorial integrity, non-alignment and elimination of the foreign military bases.

It condemns the continuing occupation of Cyprus and urges the immediate implementation of the UN resolutions, the withdrawal of all foreign troops, the return of all the refugees to their homes in conditions of safety and with all their rights safeguarded, the implementation of the UN resolutions on the missing persons and the safeguarding of the rights of the enc1aved persons.

The Presidium urges all progressive and patriotic forces to render every support to the struggle of the people of Cyprus for the implementation of the UN resolutions and a solution which safeguards the inalienable rights of its people, for unity and independence of the country and for the benefit of all its citizens, independent of ethnic origin or religion.

The Presidium greets the pledges of the new government of the socialist party of Greece for the solution of the Cyprus problem in the spirit of and according to the above tenets.

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The Presidium welcomes and calls for further consolidation of the international dimension of the AAPSO, acting for the extension

of the representation of Afro-Asian countries and for rendering more effective the international activities of the AAPSO, in the international arena, on the popular level, through cooperation with international non-governmental organisations and the democratic international organisations; the consolidation of solidarity and joint actions with the progressive and democratic political parties and the anti-racist, anti-apartheid, anti-Zionist movements in European and Western countries, as well as with the democratic and progressive international and regional, African, Asian and Latin American organisations; on the inter-governmental level through participation, follow-up, consultation, advice and exchange of experience with the United Nations, its systems and specialized agencies, as well as the actually most important fora of the NGO's in which AAPSO increasingly plays a more and more active role, especially in the Board of the CONGO and the NGO Special Committees against Racism, Apartheid and Colonialism, and for Disarmament and Development, with the OAU, its liberation committee and the other African organisations affiliated to it, the League of Arab States, its agencies and organisations, and the regional governmental organisations in Asia; and the consolidation of the activity of the Afro-Asian Centre in Geneva, and the AAPSO International Information and Development Centre in Nicosia, and the newly established AAPSO Asian Information Centre in Hanoi.

The Presidium reaffirms further commitment of AAPSO to U.N. endeavours. The AAPSO implements a wide spectrum of UN. programmes and undertakings, in various fields ranging from disarmament and anti-apartheid, to development and cultural actions.

The AAPSO Presidium appeals to all organisations which participate in the Afro-Asian solidarity movement to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the movement's ranks in the struggle for the inevitable triumph of freedom and independence of the peoples of the world, the triumph of democracy and social progress, for the

implementation of the noble goals of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement.

The 10th AAPSO Presidium emphasises that the role of popular masses in the struggles must be enhanced both in the Arab countries and in the Third World as a whole.

The Presidium re-affirms once more that no victory can ever be achieved without the freeing of the masses' role and potentialities. 'The guarding and expanding of political, democratic and trade-unions' freedoms of the masses are absolutely essential. The release of political detainees and putting an end to police pursuits, detentions and torture are essential pre-requisites to release and assert the role of the masses in the global liberation process.

It calls for actions and mobilisation to strengthen democracy and the direct active participation of the masses in the rule of their country and to redouble the vigilance of the peoples in Asia and Africa in face of the insidious imperialist intrigues against progressive national liberation forces.

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The Presidium of the AAPSO examined with concern the development in the situation of the struggle of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples facing a new aggressive escalation by US imperialism which intends to hamper the progress of the revolutionary movements in that part of the world. Particular attention was drawn to the present Yankee campaign of aggressions and interventionist schemes in the Central American and Caribbean regions, especially those involving the Cuban people, which imply a major danger-spot for the tranquility and peace of the region and of the entire world.

Participants in the meeting renewed their full support to the Nicaragua, Grenada and Cuba revolutions and vehemently condemned the aggressive schemes of the Reagan Administration against these peoples.

Likewise, the Presidium specially expressed its solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Salvadore people that, under the leadership of the Farabondo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), successfully wages its front combat against the genocidal Military Christian - Democratic Junta that impudently, backed by the US government has caused the death of more than 20 thousand Salvadore citizens in less than two years.

The meeting re-affirmed its support to the increased struggle of the Guatemala people as well as to the progress made by the people's movements in the coast of the Central American countries; it expressed its satisfaction by the Peace Initiatives for Central America submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations by the Nicaragua Government.

Participants to the Presidium noted with concern the prevailing situation in the Caribbean Sea - where the U.S. imperialism is carrying out constant military manoeuvres and concentrating a powerful war stockpile intended to hamper the advancement of the progressive and revolutionary forces; thus, provoking political and economic destabilization of the progressive countries and revolutionary processes of the region, while supporting reactionary dictatorships, like that of Jean Claude Duvalier in Haiti.

Within this framework, participants in the meeting pointed out the constant violations of the new Panama Canal Treaties and the shameless attempts by the US government to maintain at all cost the colonial domination over Puerto Rico. Likewise the participants considered the independence of the people of Belise to be a victory of peace.

The participants of the Presidium meeting of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation renewed their support to the increasingly more active struggle of the Chile, Paraguay, Bolivia, Argentine and Uruguay patriots and to other patriots of the area, who despite the fact that they are victims of repression, imprisonment and tortures are facing the attempts of

institutionalizing fascism, as occurred in Chile. In the same manner, the participants condemned the decision taken by the new US administration to openly render every kind of assistance to US satellite governments such as the governments of Chile and Argentine, under the hypocritical pretext of "appreciable progress made in human rights" in those countries, where paradoxically, they trample dignity and all the rights of man.

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The 10th AAPSO Presidium appeals for the further consolidation of the militant alliance of the forces of the national liberation movement, socialist community, the international workers and democratic movements in their joint anti-imperialist struggle.

The Presidium stresses the fact that the AAPSO is an authentic and genuine platform of Afro-Asian people that can and should act for the achievement of international maturity and responsibility, and that this challenge is what the Third World is endeavouring to meet through its most representative organisations, including the AAPSO, which was institutionalised as the organisation based on the Bandung principles and further nurtured and sustained by the non-alignment movement, progress and development so as to safeguard and promote the national liberation movement in all its forms.

The Eleventh Meeting Of The AAPSO Presidium*
11th - 14th October 1982, Tashkent - U.S.S.R

General Declaration

The participants of the meeting of the AAPSO Presidium held at Tashkent, USSR, on the eve of the Twenty Fifth Anniversary of AAPSO, notes with concern the alarming developments in the international arena.

The Reagan Administration is threatening mankind with nuclear terrorism. It is accelerating the arms race in the interest of the US military industrial complex and transnational corporations, to unprecedented height. It has been primarily responsible, together with its NATO partners, for the failure of the SSD II. The publicity media of the US Government, day in and day out, propagates the false theory of "winnable", "protracted" nuclear war.

As against the policy of brinkmanship of Reagan, the Presidium welcomes the historic declaration of the Soviet Union at the United Nations not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. The Presidium appeals to all peace and freedom-loving people to mobilise public opinion in Asia, Africa and the world to ensure that the United States and other countries possessing nuclear weapons join the Soviet Union, to pledge not to use nuclear weapons first. The participants at the Presidium meeting believe that this will greatly relieve the peoples of the world of the constant threat of a nuclear holocaust and will be a big step forward to general and complete

* AAPSO Publications (No.119)

disarmament.

The Presidium calls upon all who desire lasting peace and utilisation of science and technology for the benefit of humanity to expose the attempts of the US Government and its partners to take the world back to cold war period and to negate the positive gains of detente and Helsinki spirit.

The Presidium notes with satisfaction that the peoples of the world, particularly in the West Europe and United States, are raising their voice of protest against the nuclear war policy of Reagan in a powerful manner. Millions over millions have been demonstrating in the streets of the Capitals of West European countries and in the cities of the United States. They are demanding a HALT to the mad drive for a third world war by the US imperialism. They represent the voice of sanity. They represent the future of mankind.

- II -

The Presidium condemns in severest terms the recent US-Israeli war of aggression against PLO and Lebanon and the genocide of the Palestinian civilian people in the refugee camps - men, women and children. History will never forgive the Zionists and their imperialist masters for this heinous crime. The members of the Presidium pay its tribute to the people of Palestine and their genuine representative – the Palestine Liberation Organisation, and to the people of Lebanon and its national forces, who have demonstrated unparalleled courage and heroism in the face of a savage aggression by an enemy equipped with the most modern arms, money, moral and active assistance from the United States administration. They express their support to Syria in face of the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies in the Arab region.

The Presidium calls upon all peoples of Asia, Africa and the world to intensify the campaign of solidarity with the Palestinian people in their struggle for an independent Palestinian State under the leadership of PLO, and with the Lebanese people in their

struggle for the immediate and total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Lebanese territories and for securing the unity of Lebanon, its national independence, its Arab affiliation and its democratic development.

AAPSO records its appreciation of the struggle of the Lebanese national movement alongside with PLO during the dark days of aggression and expresses its hope that the Lebanese people will succeed in defeating the US-Israeli conspiracy to use their land as a paddle to implement US policy against the Arab countries.

The US-Israeli aggression once again proved the ineffectiveness and futility of the Camp David Accords.

- III -

Asia and Africa have been the targets of multi-prolonged attacks of imperialism.

Direct aggressions - in Korea, in Vietnam, in Laos and Kampuchea - ended in inglorious defeats for successive imperialist powers - the French, Japanese and United States.

Failing in their old strategy of direct aggression, the US imperialism has resorted to new tactics in Asia - install pliant governments who will deliver goods for the neo-colonialists, spread tentacles of transnational corporations to utilise the cheap raw materials and labour, destabilise the governments who assert their independence and pursue non-aligned foreign policy by organising subversion and encouraging the forces of disintegration within the country and threat from across the border, spreading the network of CIA operation and such other methods. The Presidium calls upon the peoples of Asia to fight back all conspiracies of imperialism.

The Presidium considers that the massive supply of US arms to the reactionary governments and military dictatorships in Asia is the continuation of the pernicious Eisenhower doctrine – "Asians must fight Asians". It considers the existence of hundreds of imperialist military bases on the soil of Asia as an infringement on

the sovereignty of the countries concerned and sources of aggravation of tension in the continent.

It, therefore, demands the dismantling of all foreign military bases in Asia, Africa, the Indian Ocean and the Gulf region, withdrawal of Rapid Deployment Force and abrogation of all bilateral and multilateral military pacts. The Presidium urges the peoples of Asia to rally against the US efforts to re-militarise Japan.

The Presidium fully supports the demand of the Government of Mauritius that the US nuclear base in Diego Garcia must be dismantled and the archipelago must be returned to its original owner - Mauritius.

The AAPSO Presidium is of the opinion that the positive and constructive proposals put forward by India, Sri Lanka, the Soviet Union, P.D.R. of Yemen, Madagascar and other littoral states of the Indian Ocean provide sound basis for ensuring peace, security and stability in the area.

The Presidium welcomes the recent proposal of Soviet President for renewal of bilateral discussions between the Soviet Union and the United States to limit and reduce the military activity in the Indian Ocean. It appeals to all concerned to ensure that the proposed UN Conference on Indian Ocean scheduled to be held in Colombo in 1983 is not allowed to be sabotaged once again.

Conscious of the fact that the fratricidal war between Iraq and Iran is a futile exercise detrimental not only to the interests of peoples of both countries but also of the entire region, the AAPSO Presidium appeals to the parties concerned to end the war which provides opportunity to the imperialist powers to increase tension in the area and derive benefit thereby.

The Presidium once again supports the initiative of the Mongolian People's Republic to draft and sign a convention on mutual non-aggression and non-use of force in relations between the States of Asia and the Pacific, and considers that the

implementation of this proposal would be one of the important measures in creating a basic prerequisite for consolidating peace, security and mutual confidence among the nations in Asia and the Pacific.

The new conspiracies hatched by imperialism and its allies in Asia are seriously jeopardising the peace and stability.

The so-called tripartite coalition of the Pol Pot gang, who were responsible for the genocide of three million people of Kampuchea, is a veiled attempt by imperialism to re-impose the Pol Pot clique on the Kampuchean people. The AAPSO Presidium reiterates its solidarity with the people of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in their struggle against imperialism and reactionary forces.

It demands that the genuine representative of Kampuchean people should be admitted in the United Nations by throwing out the Pol Pot representative and in the Non-Aligned Community.

The Presidium highly appreciates the initiative of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea aiming at the normalization of relations with China and the establishment of good neighbourly relations with the ASEAN countries as reiterated in the Sixth Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Indo-Chinese States.

The Presidium reaffirms its full support to a new proposal of the D.P.R. of Korea for the reunification of the country, demands that the United States stop "two Koreas" plot and interference in the internal affairs of Korea and withdraw its aggressive troops from South Korea in accordance with resolution of the U.N. General Assembly.

The Presidium extends it support to the people of Afghanistan who, after the Saur Revolution, have embarked on a new road freeing people from the shackles of feudalism and colonialism. The imperialists and reactionaries are desperately trying to subvert the Afghan Revolution both from within and outside by organising the counter - revolutionary forces with money and other

material assistance from the imperialist and reactionary quarters.

The Presidium feels that the imperialist strategy in the Indian sub-continent - the policy of pressure, blackmail and encouragement by all moral and material means to the forces of disintegration, the massive US arms supply to the immediate neighbour - is fraught with the gravest consequences.

The Presidium extends its support to the struggle of the peoples of Oman, Bahrain, Arab Gulf countries, for democracy, justice and radical socio-economic transformation of their countries, and to the people of Democratic Yemen against imperialist intrigues.

The Presidium supports the struggle of the People of East Timor led by FRETILIN. It demands that the government of Indonesia enters into negotiation with FRETILIN immediately for the solution of the East Timor question keeping in view the supreme interest of the peoples of both East Timor and Indonesia.

- IV -

As always, AAPSO remains a firm believer in the ever - increasingly important role played by the non-aligned countries in international affairs in spite of differences within the family now composed of States with widely divergent viewpoints. Proud of the fact that AAPSO is the only non-governmental organisation enjoying observer status in the Conference of Heads of Non-Aligned States and governments, the AAPSO Presidium reiterates its pledge to continue to popularise the basic principles of the non-aligned movement - anti-imperialism, anti-colonialism, anti-racialism, world peace and disarmament. The Presidium sincerely hopes that the Seventh Summit Conference due to take place in India in the first quarter of 1983 will further consolidate the unity and cohesion of the non-aligned community and will present a united platform against imperialism.

- V -

After more than two decades of the adoption of UN resolution demanding granting of independence to colonies, the peoples of Namibia and South Africa are still suffering the agonies of racist and colonial rule. Imperialism and the transnational corporations have the greatest stake in Southern Africa, so rich in mineral resources.

Southern Africa remains the hotbed of tension. After the collapse of the Portuguese empire, the liberation of Zimbabwe marks an important development. Namibia is now in its sixteenth year of armed struggle under the leadership of SWAPO. The people of South Africa under the leadership of ANC are today ever more united to deal the final blow to the racist regimes of South Africa.

Faced with the growing resistance of the freedom fighters in South Africa and Namibia, imperialists and their racist henchmen are resorting to various dubious means to delay the process of independence of Namibia and the ending of the white minority rule in South Africa.

Individual murders of ANC leaders abroad, and judicial murder of ANC leaders inside South Africa, mercenary invasions against Angola and the occupation of a part of Angolan territories, invasions against Mozambique, Zambia and other Front Line States, attempts to impose neo-colonialist solution on the Namibian people through the intermediary of the so-called contact group, nuclearisation of South Africa and its tie-up with NATO and Zionist Israel, etc. are regent features of imperialist racist offensive against the peoples of Namibia, South Africa and the Front Line States.

The Presidium calls upon the peoples all over the world to foil the conspiracies of racists and their imperialist masters. It appeals to all to intensify the campaign of solidarity and support to the SWAPO and ANC in their final bid for power.

The Presidium welcomes the decision of the Summit meeting of the Front Line States held in Lusaka on September 14, 1982 which reiterated its support to the UN Resolution 435 and rejected any effort that delays the independence of Namibia.

Mandatory, comprehensive sanctions against the Apartheid Regime are an important instrument to reach that goal.

The Presidium appeals to all who are opposed to apartheid and want an end to the white minority rule in South Africa to save the lives of the three ANC leaders sentenced to death by the South African racist regime. It demands immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners languishing in the prisons of South Africa including Nelson Mandela who is in the prison for the last twenty years. It condemns the US government who refused to join all other UN members in demanding the commuting of the death sentence of the three ANC leaders.

AAPSO Presidium expresses its satisfaction that the imperialist bid to destabilise the government of Seychelles has been foiled, but at the same time it feels that such efforts to destabilise the progressive governments in the Indian Ocean Islands will continue unless the forces concerned are vigilant enough.

The Presidium, after careful consideration of the latest developments, reiterates its support to the Sahrawi people under the leadership of POLISARIO Front who are fighting for self-determination and independence.

It earnestly hopes that the O.A.U. would overcome the difficulties that face it and would continue its noble mission to achieve its task of the complete decolonisation and the process of socio-economic development of Africa.

-VI -

Latin America, long considered to be a reserve for the United States monopoly interests, has now become a theatre of the most aggressive acts of US imperialism.

Failing in their efforts to humble Cuba, which inspires the

peoples of Latin America in their struggle against US imperialism, the US administration has mounted unprecedented campaign of slander against Cuba.

The Presidium notes with concern the growing military activities of the U'S forces in the Caribbean Sea which are directed primarily against Cuba but also pose a threat to Nicaragua and Granada. It is also aimed at crushing the liberation movements of the people of El Salvador led by the Farabondo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN). The Presidium extends its support to the peoples and governments of Cuba, Nicaragua and Granada. It pledges its solidarity with the struggling peoples of El Salvador and other Latin American countries who are heroically fighting against the dictatorial regimes backed by US imperialism.

- VII -

AAPSO notes with great regret the setback in the social, economic and unionist conditions of women and in their effective role in development throughout the world and particularly in the Third World due to the world economic crisis and the role of the multi-nationals in imposing economic dependence on developing countries. AAPSO calls on its national committees to intensify their efforts among the masses so as to rally world public opinion and make men and women realize this reality and work to overcome it.

- VIII -

Meeting on the soil of the Soviet Union, which is celebrating the Sixtieth Anniversary of the USSR, the participants express their sincerest thanks and gratitude to the people and government of USSR for their warmth and hospitality.

The newly liberated countries of Asia and Africa owe a great deal to the Soviet Union for the consolidation of their independence and for the disinterested economic assistance rendered to them.

- IX -

Asia and Africa, with all the explored and unexplored rich natural resources, may be turned into lands of honey once the neo-colonialist exploitation of the former and present colonial powers is ended. The countries of Asia and Africa, freed from the exploitation of imperialism, transnational corporations and reactionary forces can be converted into lands of plenty, where hunger, poverty and misery will be things of the past.

For twenty five years, AAPSO has been working to realise this object of the Afro-Asian peoples. Wherever the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America were struggling for national independence, they could count on the active support of AAPSO. The struggling peoples of Asia, Africa and elsewhere find in AAPSO an ally in their struggle against imperialism, against racism, against Zionism, against oppression. AAPSO, on the occasion of twenty-five years of its existence, rededicates itself to live up to the expectations of the struggling peoples of Asia and Africa.

The forces of independence, peace and progress are indefinitely stronger today than imperialism and reaction. Gone are the days when a handful of imperialist powers could dictate the course of history. The aggressive acts of imperialism and its allies are not signs of their strength. In the face of ever-growing resistance of peoples they have today become desperate for their survival.

United strength of the progressive and democratic forces can and must hasten the final defeat of imperialism. AAPSO pledges to do everything possible in this direction.

- X -

The last years are characterised not only by military and political expansion of the USA and its allies, but also by an increasing economic and ideological aggression of imperialism. The economic crisis in the West gives rise to numerous new

difficulties for independent development and overcoming the economic backwardness of Afro-Asian countries.

Neo-colonialism is pursuing the course of aggravation of economic problems of newly independent countries and attempts to put their foreign debts, their financial and other difficulties to use, in its interest, so as to obstruct the struggle of peoples against imperialism, and to impose new neo-colonialist demands.

In spite of all the historic experience of neo-colonialism, the newly independent countries constantly are being pressurized to reject the concept and practice of economic action by the state and the public sector industrialization as well as the planning which would amount to a rejection of an important means in the struggle for economic independence.

The imperialist forces systematically frustrate the endeavours of the newly independent countries to establish the new world economic order.

The Presidium underlines the necessity of intensifying the struggle against increasing the economic and ideological aggression of imperialism.

The success of this struggle depends, among other things, on the implementation of democratic socio-economic changes in developing countries, on expanding economic ties between these countries on the basis of collective self-reliance, as well as strengthening their economic cooperation with socialist countries. It also necessitates increased independence form world capitalist markets.

The Twelfth AAPSO Presidium Committee
13th – 15th December 1983
Nicosia – Cyprus

General Declaration

The Presidium notes with great alarm the escalation of tension and deterioration in international relations.

The insistence of the USA to proceed with the deployment of Pershing II and Cruise missiles in "Western Europe, against the expressed wil1 of the majority of the people, is a clear indication of the aggressive policy of the Reagan administration.

The Presidium notes with satisfaction that the overwhelming majority of the peoples of the world, particularly of West Europe and USA are protesting against this aggression policy in an unprecedented manner.

The Presidium calls upon all people to intensify their struggle for peace and disarmament. This struggle is closely interconnected with the mounting struggle for real independence and freedom.

The Presidium strongly condemns the unilateral declaration of the so-called independent republic in the occupied territories of Cyprus which aims at legalising the Turkish occupation fait accompli and violates the U.N. resolutions.

The Presidium appeals to all peace and freedom peop1e to struggle for the reversal of this illegal action and for measures of pressure towards Turkey to abandon her expansionist designs. It supports a solution based on the UN resolutions to consolidate the independence, unity, territorial integrity, sovereignty,

non-alignment and demilitarisation of Cyprus.

The Presidium strongly condemns the US – Zionist aggression, escalating as a result of the US – Israel strategic accord, against the Arab peoples in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine in particular.

It follows with concern the increasing overt involvement of the US marines and the NATO countries' forces in military operations against the Lebanese national forces which oppose the Lebanese – Israeli agreement and struggle for liberating their country from the Israeli occupation.

The Presidium denounces the ferocious onslaught launched by the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary forces against the PLO, the solo legitimate representative of the Palestinian people with a view to beating the militant gains, achieved by the Arab Palestinian people, liquidating the inalienable national rights of this people and annihilating the independent national Palestinian decision.

The Presidium also denounces the US - Israeli military aggression against Syria, this aggression which aims at impairing the Arab resistance against the imperialist and Zionist intrigues.

It also denounces the frequent attacks against the Arab Libyan Jamaheryia.

The Presidium notes the recent escalation in the policy of war, destruction and destabilisation pursued by the Pretoria racist regime which could not survive without the overt or covert support by a number of Western countries led by USA.

The Presidium joins the UN Security Council to South Africa for its obstruction of the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 (1978), by insisting on conditions contrary to the provisions of the UN plan for the independence of Namibia.

The Presidium calls upon all peoples to intensify the solidarity, by supporting the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people, SWAPO.

The Presidium strongly condemns the so-called constitutional reforms introduced by the racist regime of South Africa as an

attempt to entrench Apartheid and to disrupt the unity of the Forces of Liberation. It hails the mounting struggle inside South Africa led by the ANC and calls upon all people to intensify their support to ANC.

It also calls for practical support to the frontline states especially Angola, which suffer continuous aggression by the racist regime.

The Presidium calls for the elimination of the foreign bases like the Diego Garcia nuclear base in the Indian Ocean and reiterates its demand for converting the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

The Presidium expresses its grave concern at the increasing military collusion between the United States, Japan and South Korea. It supports the proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for independent and peaceful reunification. It hails the massive movements of the peoples of Asia against destabilisation for democracy, peace and social progress.

The Reagan administration resorted to a gun boat policy in Latin America. The invasion of Granada has been condemned by a majority of the countries of the world, including some traditional U.S. allies. The Presidium joins its voice with all the people of the world in demanding the immediate withdrawal of US troops and the restoration of Granada's independence and sovereignty.

It hails the mounting struggle of the Chilean people against the dictatorial regime and stands for the right of the Puerto Rico people for self-determination and independence.

The Presidium hails the success of the Seventh Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned countries and calls upon all the National Committees of AAPSO to popularise its decisions.

It countersigns its resolutions and stresses the necessity for a new International Economic Order to bridge the chasm of the distribution of global wealth and technology.

It stresses its support to the UN Charter and principles and the necessity for closer cooperation with the UN and strengthening of its role.

The 12th AAPSO Presidium calls upon all peace and freedom loving - peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America to intensify their united struggle for world peace, independence, defence of sovereignty and for social transformation.

Peace and Development, not War and Destruction.

The Thirteenth Meetimg Of AAPSO Presidium*
16th - 19th December 1986
Ulan Bator, Mongolia

The Ulan Bator Appeal

The year 1986, which is now drawing to an end, has become a new and important landmark in the worldwide struggle of peoples for the prevention of the threat of nuclear war, the cessation of the arms race and preservation of world peace.

Today, as never before, a fierce and unprecedented confrontation of two opposing concepts of world development is taking place on the international arena. The forces of imperialist reaction and militarism, primarily the ruling circles of the U.S., spare no effort to exacerbate the nuclear-missile confrontation, to further accelerate the arms race and to deploy nuclear weapons in outer space. It is these forces which want the atmosphere of militaristic psychosis to become still more explosive, which implement the policy of brazen and open diktat and violence with respect to the peoples of the developing countries and national liberation movements.

This dangerous and irresponsible policy line is firmly counteracted by the policy of all democratic, peace and socialist forces, which resolutely and consistently fight for the cessation of the arms race, for nuclear disarmament and the utilization of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes. The forces of peace and common sense demand that tremendous sums should be

* AAPSO Publications (No.137)

channelled from the sphere of arms race to the purposes of development. These forces firmly come out for the establishment of the atmosphere of trust and all-round cooperation between all nations and states of our planet.

This year, which is drawing to an end and which will go down in history as the International year of peace, has seen a convincing manifestation of the vanguard role of the socialist countries, the workers and national liberation movement, of the entire democratic public forces of the world in the fight for a peaceful future of humanity.

This is why the constructive and large-scale initiatives of the USSR, which are contained in the historic Statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU M. Gorbachev of January 15, 1986, the position of principle put forward by the USSR in Reykjavik and the Soviet moratorium on nuclear testing have received such a wide support and approval on all continents.

The "Delhi Declaration of principles of a nuclear-free and non-violent world" has become a convincing manifestation of a new political thinking which is required by the imperatives of the nuclear missile era. Millions of participants of the solidarity movement in Asia and Africa together with broad masses of the world public highly value and fully support the fundamental principles of the Delhi Declaration.

The Non-Alignment movement makes a significant contribution to ensuring World peace. The VIIIth Conference of the heads of states and governments of non-aligned countries, which met in Harare, has reaffirmed the increasingly more active role of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America on the world arena. The Mexico Appeal by the leaders of "six countries and five continents" to ban nuclear tests, to achieve concrete measures of nuclear disarmament has brought about significant political response throughout the world.

Under the present conditions, when mankind is facing the threat

of nuclear annihilation, the Presidium of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, addressing from the city of Ulan Bator to all forces of peace and solidarity on our planet, appeals:

- To fight resolutely to disrupt the criminal designs of imperialism against peace, freedom and independence of peoples!
- To step up efforts in the struggle for the cessation of the arms race, for general nuclear disarmament!
- To persistently strive for banning all nuclear tests!
- To fight actively against militarization or outer space!
- To increase solidarity and unity of actions of all anti-imperialist, democratic and progressive forces of our planet in the struggle for elimination on the danger of the nuclear catastrophe, for ensuring a lasting peace on Earth!

The Presidium of AAPSO calls on all participants of the solidarity movement of the peoples of Asia and Africa to rally all their forces and opportunities with a view to implementing these priority tasks, which are highly urgent today. The present situation demands that resolution steps be taken for the sake of saving humanity from the threat or self-annihilation, for the sake of building a world free from wars, weapons and fear of the future!

The Fourteenth Session Of AAPSO Presidium*
30th Anniversary
12th -16th January 1988
Cairo - ARE

Final Communique

Firstly:

The Presidium of AAPSO met in Cairo, the capital of the Arab Republic of Egypt, from 12 to 15 January, 1988.

The members of the Presidium participated in the solemn celebration of the Thirtieth Anniversary of AAPSO which was attended by same personalities invited for the occasion on the 16th January. More than 145 representatives from 47 countries and 12 organisations from Africa, Asia and the world over took part in the two events. The Presidium expressed deep condolences at the sudden demise of Abdul Rahman Sharkawi, the late President of AAPSO and paid tribute to his memory.

The Presidium met in a new political atmosphere which has been created by more realistic approaches to the crucial international problems. This atmosphere is the result of growing struggle of the peoples against imperialism, neo-colonialism, colonialism, racism and Zionism and for nuclear weapon free and non - violent world. The members of the Presidium shared the joy of millions of peoples all over the world, who have been demanding for nearly four decades the complete banning of nuclear weapons, on the historic event of the signing of a treaty between the Soviet Union and the United States on the elimination

* AAPSO Publications (No.141)

of two categories of nuclear weapons-the medium and shorter-range missiles. The members of the Presidium warmly congratulated the two leaders of the two great powers - General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and the US President Ronald Reagan - for this bold step. They expressed the hope that the next Summit will lead to the signing of a treaty between USA and USSR reducing the strategic arms by half and the process will continue ridding mankind of the nightmare of a nuclear holocaust. The Presidium expressed the confidence that, given the goodwill and tenacious efforts of the peace-loving governments and peoples, particularly of the great powers and the non-Aligned governments, conditions could be created to eliminate, by the turn of the century, all nuclear weapons and to enter the twenty-first century into a world free of nuclear weapons as proposed by the Soviet Union. The Presidium felt that AAPSO, together with all the peace-loving peoples and governments, should intensify its efforts to mobilise the public opinion in Asia and Africa to realise this goal. The task, however, is not easy.

The current international situation and the interests of the peoples of developing countries demand further broadening of the social base of the solidarity movement and strengthening its cooperation with the anti-war movements and with democratic forces, working out the new strategy which will take into consideration in fuller way the specifics of current world developments. The content of this programme should be worked out to increase the traditional forms of anti-imperialist struggle, to integrate closer AAPSO activities with the struggle of the peoples for solution of problems of contemporary world - the most important of which is the elimination of the threat of thermonuclear catastrophe, achieving disarmament, preserving ecology establishing comprehensive system of international security and ensuring favourable international conditions for economic and

social development.

Secondly:

The newly independent countries of Asia and Africa are faced with the difficult task of development and social progress. Industrial development, modernization of agriculture, proper utilisatlon of natural resources were not just possible while the countries were under colonial domination. The former colonial powers continue to prevent these countries in their endeavour to create a base for self-reliant economy. The internal political and economic conditions in some of those countries assist these imperialist machinations sometimes. While the United Nations adopted a resolution on the sovereign right of countries over their natural resources, it is, in fact, the transnational corporations which exploit the natural resources and cheap labour of the developing countries. Handicapped as they are, because of their meagre foreign exchange resources, the developing countries have to borrow mainly from the western financial institutions like the IMF and World Bank for carrying out their development projects. This entails all the consequences which infringe on their right to determine the development strategy of their own in the interests of their people. To the imperialists, these former colonies are their perpetual reserve markets. The present unjust and discriminatory international economic relations, the imbalance of trade, protectionism practiced by the western industrialised nations, the gradual decline of the price of primary commodities of the developing countries and above all the debt problem - the perennial crisis faced by the developing countries which severely thwart the development process - calls for the creation of the New International Economic Order without further delay. Coordinated action by the developing countries in this direction is urgently called for. The developing countries do expect that some amount thus saved as a result of initiating the process of disarmament may be diverted for the development of the newly independent

countries. The Presidium of AAPSO calls upon all Afro-Asian peoples to mount public pressure for this purpose.

Thirdly:

The Presidium deplores that in spite of all efforts by the international community - the Non-Aligned Movement, the Frontline States, the United Nations and all freedom-loving peoples all over the world - the South African racist regime is still in illegal occupation of Namibia and refuses stubbornly to implement the UN Resolution 435. The Presidium hails the intensity of the every-growing struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO. The Presidium demands the immediate independence of Namibia. No pretext, whatsoever, to continue the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa is tenable. The struggle of the South African people has entered a new phase. The upsurge within the country, which adds daily to the list of martyrs, has been hailed all over the world. The Reagan Administration and its allies refuse to heed to world public opinion to apply comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the South African racist regime. ANC - today is recognised as the authentic voice of the people of South Africa even by those who were hostile to it. The ANC - sponsored International conference recently held in Arusha, Tanzania to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of ANC under the theme «Peoples of the World against Apartheid and for a Democratic South Africa» gave full endorsement to the democratic perspective of South Africa as embodied in the Freedom Charter. The Presidium fully supports the decisions of the Arusha Conference and hopes that sooner rather than later a non-racial democratic South Africa will appear on the map of the world.

The Presidium welcomes the decisions of the last OAU Summit on the concerted action by the African Community against Apartheid and racism.

The Presidium is happy to note that Zimbabwe has decided to

present a united front in their struggle against imperialism and racism. The Presidium sends its hearty greetings to the Executive President of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, who is also the current Chairman of NAM for his initiative to unite the patriotic forces of his country which will go a long way to assist and help the liberation movements of Southern Africa.

The Presidium salutes the Frontline States of Southern Africa for their continued support to the liberation movements of Southern Africa in spite of growing acts of aggression and destabilisation and risking the aggression of the racist regime of South Africa.

The Presidium hails the uprising of the Palestinian people in West Bank and Gaza, which has reached a new dimension. It condemns severely the brutal atrocities perpetrated by the Zionist Israeli rulers on the peaceful, unarmed Palestinian people of the occupied territories of West Bank and Gaza.

AAPSO particularly condemns the attempts of the Israeli authorities to deport the Palestinian people from West Bank and Gaza which is against the Geneva Convention. AAPSO demands the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied Arab territories. AAPSO reiterates that the only satisfactory solution of the Palestinian problem is to set up an independent Palestinian state with PLO at the head. The International Conference on the Middle East with all the parties concerned participating including the Permanent members of the Security Council and PLO brook no further delay.

The Presidium denounces the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories and the terrorist measures causing destruction practiced by Zionists and separatists against patriotic forces of Lebanon, and renews its support to the struggle of the Lebanese people and their patriotic movement against occupation and for the unity, Arabism and independence of their country.

The Presidium reaffirms its support to the struggle of the

Western Saharaoui people led by POLISARIO to find a political solution of the problem in the interests of the people of Western Sahara and peace in the region and particularly welcomes the visit of the UN mission in the area.

It calls on Morocco to respect the Resolutions 104 AHG (XIX) of O.A.U. and 42/78 of UN regarding Western Sahara.

The Presidium reiterates its consistent demand to end the Iran-Iraq war. It supports all initiatives particularly the attempts of the United Nations, the non-Aligned countries and international mediation to this end. It demands the implementation of Resolution 598 in its totality.

The Presidium demands the withdrawal of the naval and air forces of the US and some of the NATO Powers from the Gulf as well as the liquidation of military facilities granted to them.

Fourthly:

The Presidium notes that in spite of the signing of the INF Treaty by USA and USSR, which ensures the liquidation of the medium-range missiles of USSR in Asia, there remain hundreds of US military bases in Japan, the Philippines and elsewhere. Thousands of US troops are stationed on the soil of Asia and the Pacific islands. Nuclear weapons are dumped in Japan, South Korea and Diego Garcia. US ships carrying nuclear weapons visit the ports of Asia, New Zealand faces US threat for refusing permission to US ships carrying nuclear weapons. The Pacific islands are used as testing sites of nuclear weapons by USA, France and Britain. The Asia-Pacific strategy of US government is a clear threat to the independence and sovereignty of the countries of the region. This, coupled with the exploitation by the transnational corporations of the vast natural resources and man-power, is a positive menace. This situation must end.

The Presidium feels that in the interest of peace and security in Asia, some thorny problems like the political solutions in Afghanistan and Kampuchea, should be resolved in the best

interests of their peoples.

The interests of the peoples in this region demand the withdrawal of American and NATO fleet and forces from the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

The process of national reconciliation initiated by the government of the Republic of Afghanistan should be encouraged. Public opinion should be mounted to force imperialism and reactionaries to stop interference in the international affairs of Afghanistan and put an end to their military, financial assistance to the extremists' groups in order to facilitate the early withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan as announced by the Soviet Foreign Minister.

The Presidium expresses its satisfaction that the people of Kampuchea has marched a long way in the road of revival of their entity as a nation. It welcomes the constructive policy of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in taking the initiative for national reconciliation and having meeting with Prince Sihanouk to find a solution to the Kampuchean question by the Kampuchean people themselves.

The Presidium firmly believes that the countries of Asia should unitedly resist the imperialist policy of dividing them. It deplores the attempts of imperialism and reactionary forces to destabilise India. History has convincingly proved that by taking massive US military aid, by acting as the policeman of imperialism, by providing shelter to the handful of fanatics who act as mercenaries to destabilise any country, the rulers of the countries concerned stand condemned by their own people. That is why the Movement for Restoration of Democracy in Pakistan has been gaining ground and the Pakistani people are asserting themselves for genuine independence.

The Presidium supports the struggle of the Korean people for peaceful reunification and withdrawal of US troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea. It welcomes the new proposal of

President Kim Il Sung of DPRK, in his New Year address on January 1, 1988.

The Movement for Democracy in Bangladesh has reached an unprecedented dimension. Never in the recent period the unity of the democratic forces posed such a challenge to the ruling circles. The Presidium sincerely hopes that the people of Bangladesh will march forward reviving their glorious tradition of the Bangladesh liberation movement.

The Presidium is of the opinion that public organisations in the Asian countries should take initiative to convene a broad forum to discuss the problems of Asia and the Pacific in order to create a favourable atmosphere for peace and security in Asia and the Pacific region.

The Presidium extends its support to the struggle of the Fijian people for the restoration of the democratically elected government and for national unity.

The Presidium takes note of the fact that while imperialism continues its intrigues, conspiracies and offensive, as desperate attempts to survive, the peoples all over the world are marching forward. Imperialism is no longer a monolithic force. The US dollar is no longer the supreme. Inter-imperialist contradictions are sharpening.

As against the policies of imperialism, the anti-imperialist forces are grouping together in various regions. Its North-South dialogue is dead-locked, attempts are being made by the Non-Aligned Movement for South-South Co-operation. SAARC is one example of this effort. ASEAN Summit, recently held in Manila, in spite of its different approaches towards the Kampuchean question, is trying to develop mutual cooperation though imperialism tries to use it in their interests. The bold declaration of the countries of the Pacific islands declaring the South Pacific as the nuclear free zone, defying the U.S. government and its allies, is yet another example. There is India - Sri Lanka accord to settle ethnic Tamil

problem. All attempts are made by local and international reaction to create obstacles and if this could be overcome this will go down in history as a model in solving bilateral relations without the interference and diktat of imperialism which always demands its presence for such settlements among the former colonie.

Fifthly:

Turning to the burning problems of the different regions of the world, AAPSO, demands:

That in regard to Central America, all support should be given to Guatemala Accord for peace and security in the region. AAPSO deplores that the US Administration is aggravating tension in the region and trying to destabilise the democratically elected Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

That the unity and territorial integrity of Cyprus must be maintained and the division of the country on the basis of artificial grounds must not be accepted by the international community, AAPSO demands the withdrawal of the Turkish and all other military forces and bases from Cyprus, the peaceful settlement of the problem through the convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations and in accordance with its relevant resolutions.

That AAPSO must coordinate its efforts with other NGOs to strengthen the role and authority of the United Nations.

That AAPSO should invigorate itself to strengthen the Non-Aligned Movement.

The campaign for converting the Indian Ocean into a Zone of Peace must be intensified.

Sixthly:

Thirty years ago, when AAPSO was born, the world was a different one. The imperialist powers were actively engaged in aggravating the cold war which they themselves started in the immediate post-war period. The peoples of Africa and Asia were struggling against colonialism, for national independence.

Thirty years later though imperialism and colonialism are on the retreat they have started a new offensive. The world public opinion is much more awakened. The INF Treaty has been hailed all over the world as a breakthrough towards disarmament - nuclear disarmament in particular. The struggle now has to be launched for total elimination of nuclear weapons.

For the peoples of Africa and Asia while the liberation of the South Africa, Namibia, Palestine and Western Sahara, remains a major pre-occupation; the arduous battle for the consolidation of independence, defending of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, the struggle against neo-colonialism, achieving economic self-sufficiency by reducing their dependence on the capitalist world, by developing ever more South-South cooperation, assumes more and more importance. The Afro-Asian community has to face more and more offensive from the industrialised seven western countries. As they face every-growing crisis, they will try to resolve them at the cost of the interests of the developing countries. The Presidium feels that AAPSO has to face this challenge in the coming period in all its intensity and dimension and has to mobilise the peoples to combat this challenge. This is a formidable task.

With united efforts, the Afro-Asian community is strong enough to meet the challenge.

The Presidium meeting rededicates itself to the lofty ideals with which AAPSO was born thirty years ago. It pledges to fulfil its duties and responsibilities to the peoples of Asia and Africa with all sincerity and devotion.

The Presidium warmly thanks all India Peace and Solidarity Organisations for agreeing to host the Seventh AAPSO Congress scheduled to be held in New Delhi in November 1988. It calls upon all national affiliates to make adequate and necessary political preparations to make this congress a success.

The Fifteenth Session Of AAPSO Presidium
27th-29th November 1990
Damascus - SAR

Final Communiqué

The Fifteenth Presidium Session of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organisation was held in Damascus, the Capital of the Syrian Arab Republic from 27 to 29 November 1990, attended by 112 delegates representing 44 National Committees, International Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations.

The gracious Patronage of His Excellency Hafez Al Assad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic, has created favourable circumstances contributing to the success of the Session.

The dramatic international developments dictate a re-appraisal of the role of our organisation and its restructure. The new phase of the East-West relations, its repercussions on the political balance, the increasing gap in technological development and wealth distribution and the resulting discrimination against the South countries, pose on us new duties.

To face the new situation, a closer co-ordination of activities between South countries is necessary, without bypassing the co-operation among alike thinking forces in the developed countries. The main target is a more balanced development, transfer of capital and technology to the countries of the South, a differentiation of the role of the international monetary institutions, the safeguarding of the political and economic independence of all countries, a code of trade to favour the development of the South countries, democracy, the safeguarding of human and national

rights; the preservation of the environment and the peaceful solutions of the regional problems on the basis of international law and the relevant UN resolutions where they exist.

The greater part played by the people in reconstructing of their countries makes the role of dynamic Non-Governmental Organisations more prominent.

The role of the U.N. has been upgraded as demonstrated by its activities in the independence of Namibia; regional problems such as in Afghanistan, Cambodia and the Gulf region.

The results of the recent conference of the heads of states in Paris (CSCE) will have far reaching positive effects not only on the participating countries, but the whole world. We should work that the charter for new Europe should have a universal implementation. In this new spirit of relaxation of tension there are phenomena which undermine this process.

Israel's continued aggression against the Palestinian people in violation of every international norms and the denial of its legitimate rights, including the establishment of the independent Palestinian state, the occupation of the Arab and Cypriot territories, the persisting discriminatory policies in South Africa, the Israeli presence in Lebanon, and the division of Korea are the sources of tension.

The situation in the Middle East has been aggravated and complicated by the Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait a phenomenon which characterised the policy of imperialist and colonialist countries, but not the developing countries.

The massive mobilisation of troops and sophisticated weapons by the U.S. and her Western allies has escalated the danger and created an explosive situation. Any conflagration will lead to disastrous consequences not only for the region but for the whole world.

Taking into consideration the world developments before and after the 7th Congress, AAPSO deliberated and discussed the

question of the new strategy in several meetings. The Presidium analysed in depth the question and came to the concensus that in view of these developments AAPSO has to face the new challenge and reflect the aspirations of the South countries.

Having considered all the developments around the world, the participants of the 15th Session of the Presidium:

- Reiterate that a peaceful solution to the Gulf problem should be sought ensuring the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and restoration of its legitimacy and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the region.
- Reaffirm its support to the just struggle of the Palestinian people, their "Intifada" and their struggle for return and self-determination embodied in the declaration for an independent Palestinian state, urges the convening of an international conference on Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned including the PLO and emphasises the urgent necessity for international protection against Israeli state terrorism. Expresses concern on the Jewish immigration to the occupied Palestinian lands, because it creates a political and demographic danger to the Palestinian people and the Arab region.
- Highly appreciate the struggle of the people under Israeli occupation of Golan Heights to retain their Arab Syrian identity and demands the restoration of Golan Heights to its legitimate owner-Syria.
- Welcome the process of peace and reconciliation taking place in Lebanon that has been established on the National Reconciliation Accord. Insist on the persual of this process on the support of the national resistance in order to drive out the Israeli enemy from occupied South Lebanon, and on the implementation of the Security Council Resolutions 425, 508 and 509 which demanded the immediate and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon.
- Hail the fraternal assistance given and great sacrifice made

by Syria in order to restore security and stability in Lebanon, and achieve its pursuit of national reconciliation in this country.

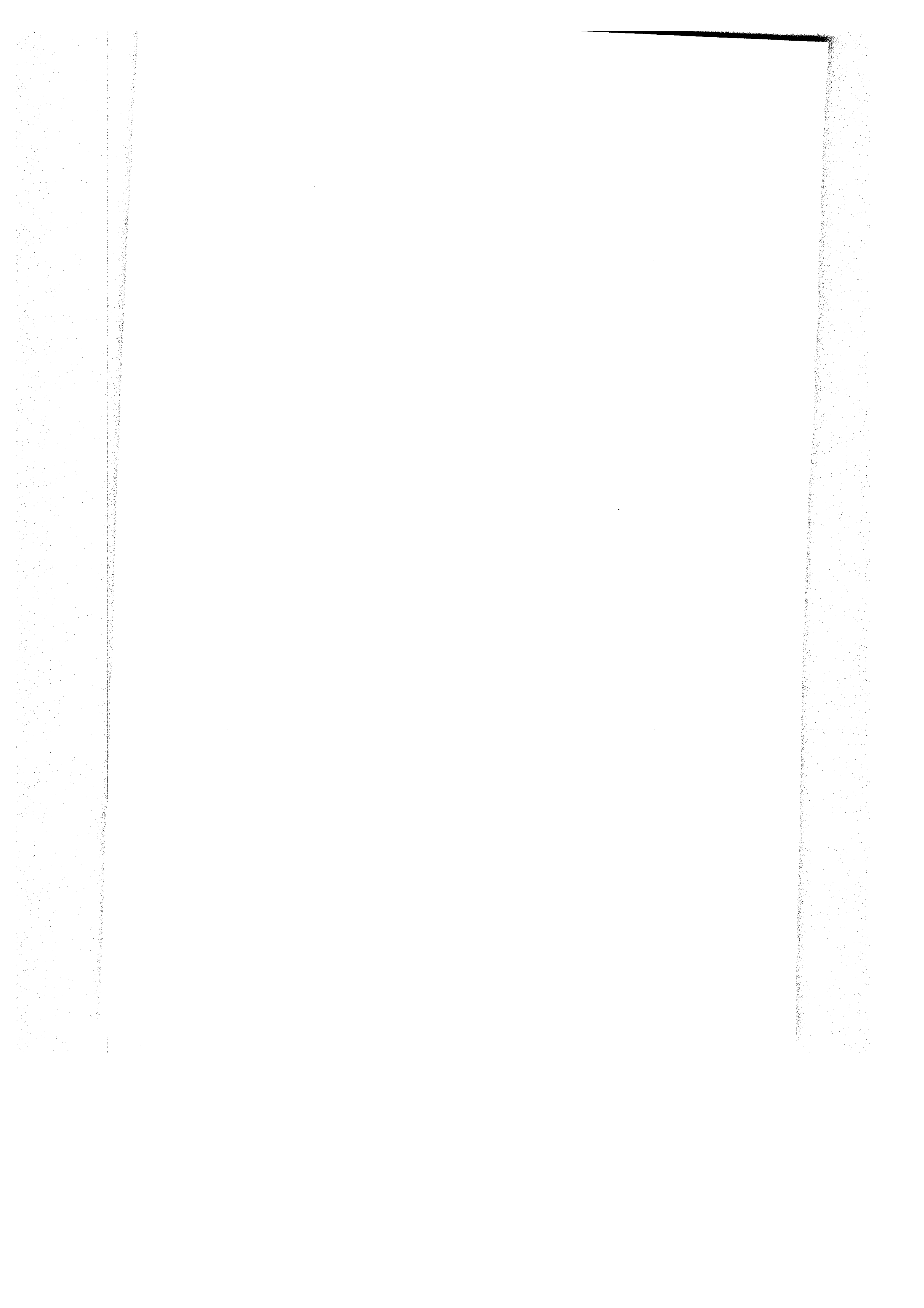
- Hail the release of Nelson Mandela and the efforts to unify all anti-Apartheid and democratic forces inside South Africa and the on-going process of negotiations between the ANC and the Pretoria government to establish a non-racial democratic South Africa. Calls for more pressure to be exerted on the Pretoria regime to abolish completely the Apartheid system.
- Welcome the negotiation between MPLA and UNITA in Angola for ending civil war and to consolidate its independence.
- Appreciate and welcome the peace negotiations between the government of Mozambique and RENAMO and hopes that parties to the problem would solve it peacefully.
- Take note of the tendency to develop pluralism in some Afro-Asian countries.
- Urge that all intra-South differences should be resolved through negotiations and by peaceful means.
- Hope that dialogue between the North and the South of Korea would be continued to make active contribution to peace in Korean Peninsula and their reunification. The U.S. and South Korean authorities should stop actions against peace and dialogue such as joint military exercise, called "Team Spirit". In response to the wishes and aspiration of the Korean and peace - loving people of the world, US troops and nuclear weapons should be withdrawn from south Korea and a non-aggression pact between the North and the South of Korea should be signed.
- Support the UN peace plan to end the conflict in Western Sahara and calls upon Morocco and Polisario front to start dialogue for a negotiated settlement.
- Support all UN initiatives to resolve the conflict in Afghanistan and demands full implementation of the Geneva Accords by all the parties concerned.
- Support the efforts of the parties concerned and the

initiatives of the UN aimed at a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem guaranteeing the Cambodian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of a peaceful, independent, neutral and non-aligned Cambodia.

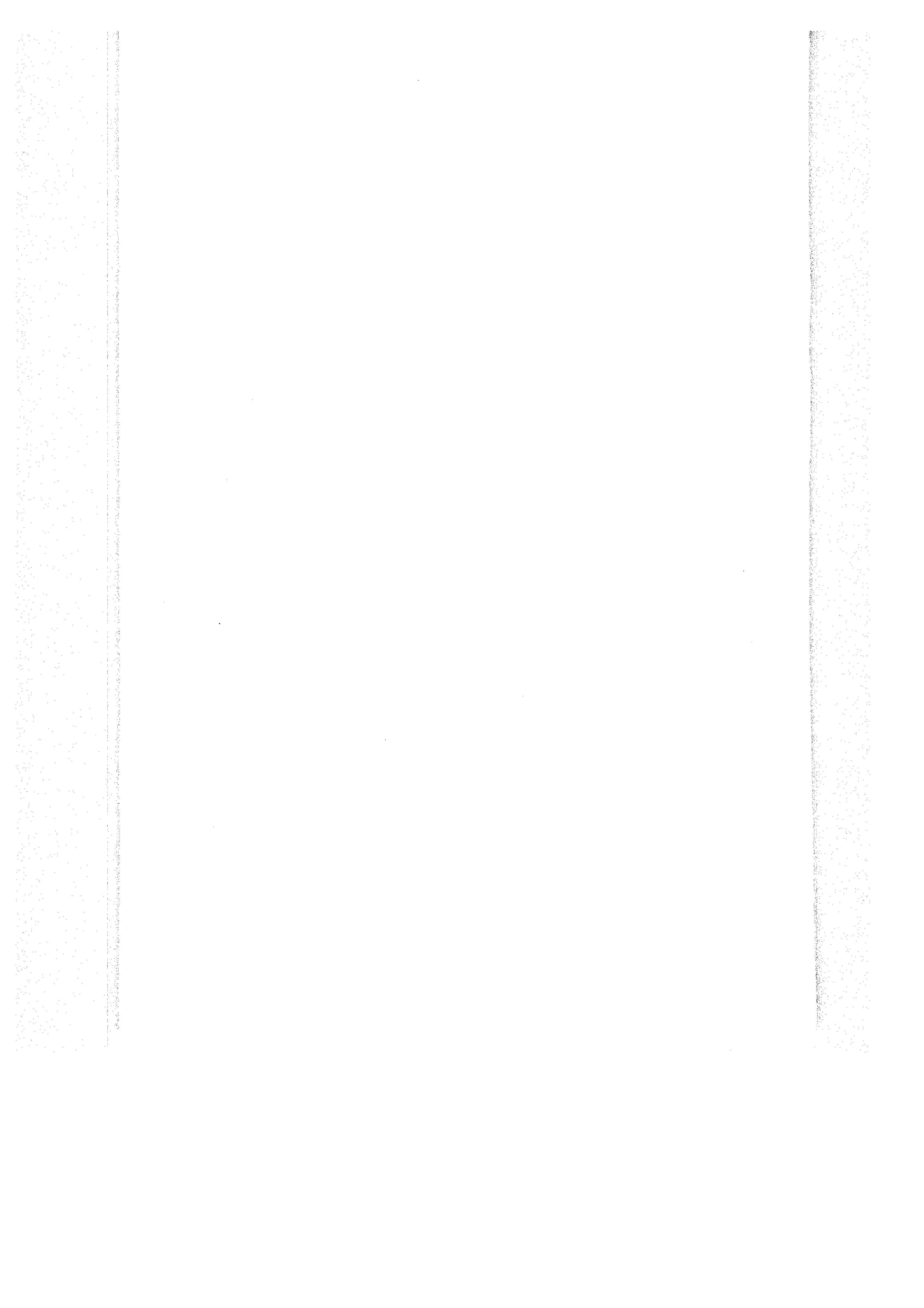
- Reiterate that the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus should be ensured, in compliance with the U.N. resolutions.
- Under the present circumstances, the Non-Aligned Movement which has played a significant historical role is expected to be dynamically activated and to strengthen its role in formulating the new global development.
- Call upon national committees to unite all political and social forces to build up powerful campaigns and mass mobilizations to achieve these goals, ensuring democracy and human rights.

Chapter II

General Conferences
(Activities)



Firstly: National Issues



The Emergency Conference Of AAPSO In Support Of The Arab Peoples In Their Battle Against Imperialism And Israel*
1st - 3rd July 1967
Cairo - ARE
General Declaration

The world is facing today, as a result of the recent Imperialist Israeli aggression on the Arab homeland, a very serious peril that is threatening international peace and security. National liberation movements all over the world are also facing a critical situation that threatens their very existence and that threatens, all forces of progress and socialism. This is a consequence of overt imperialist aggression on the Arab homeland, where Israel has been used as a tool to perpetrate this aggression.

The last events had given unequivocal incontestable proof of the real aims of world imperialism front the establishment of Israel in the heart of the great Arab Nation. It had intended that Israel should be the instrument by which its aggressive aims and designs would be achieved, and the foundation upon which it relied for protection of its interests, as well as its bases.

This new aggression is by no means the first of its kind nor is it likely to be the last; it is in fact only one link in the long chain of conspiracies and in the escalating imperialist offensive directed against the Arab people, as well as all other struggling peoples on the road to freedom in all countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Israeli aggression on all Arab States is by no means a regional

* AAPSO Publications (No.27)

conflict between it and the Arab Nation; it is an indivisible part of a total war carried out on a world scale between imperialism on the one hand, and all other liberation forces in the world, on the other. This aggression is nothing but a link in the strategical chain of total aggression deigned by the forces of imperialism under the leadership of the United States, to crush the forces of liberation throughout the world.

Israeli aggression can hardly be considered, outside the intensification of the imperialist onslaught created by the aggressive policy and action of the imperialist states.

The criminal war of aggression being waged by American imperialism on Vietnam together with the provocations against Cuba, the attempts of British imperialists of crushing the struggle of the Arab people in Aden, Occupied Southern Yemen and the Arab Gulf, as well as the peoples of the African Continent; the setting up of imperialist bases bolstered by reactionary regimes in Southern Korea, Southern Vietnam, etc. the counter-revolutionary activities, the various coups in several parts of the world; all these, together with imperialist Israeli aggression are only links in the same chain of conspiracies and provocations directed against the forces of peace, national liberation and socialism.

The aim of the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy was to consolidate the aggressive presence of Israel, to extend its frontiers, to reinforce its potentialities and to strike at the heart of the Arab revolution that stands in the way of imperialist military pacts and constitutes an obstacle to the achievements of the objectives of imperialism concerning, first of all, domination over the Arab world; and second, the African and Asian Continents in order to exploit their wealth and resources and to turn them into markets for the benefit of world monopolies.

Imperialism, when designing Israel's latest aggression on the Arab homeland, providing it with every form of assistance aimed at crushing the Arab revolution, and all it represents as the

embodiment of the popular revolutionary fighting will for the edification of a united socialist Arab society. Such a revolution has grown and gained power and forged vital links with the world liberation movements, thus threatening the interests of imperialism, not only on Arab soil, but in Asia, Africa and Latin America and all other parts of the world.

From this aggression carried out through Israel imperialism wanted to safeguard their monopolistic interests, petroleum and otherwise and to exploit the wealth of peoples and their riches, to protect its military bases spread in some areas of the Arab Nation as well as in some Afro-Asian countries close to it. It is on these bases that imperialism depends for the execution of its strategic objectives relative to its military projects.

The relation between Zionism and imperialism, in both its old and new forms, is not new; it is as old as Zionism itself, as it is an indivisible part of world imperialism as well as one of its manifestations.

Israel is a product of Zionism, in that it is an expansionist, racialist and aggressive movement; it is the same form of colonialist settlement which was known to Africa and Asia and which was based on racialism. Israel is the instrument used by neo-colonialism for infiltration in the new developing countries of Asia and Africa. It is taking over what had been left by world imperialism. It is providing capital, or more exactly the capital of world monopolies, and also provides new emerging countries liberated from the old forms of colonialism with the technical and cultural experience know-how, thus providing neo-colonialism with the means of infiltrating into their economies to gain mastery over their culture and markets and exploit their wealth. At the same time it supplies with military aid as they did to the puppet governments of South Vietnam and South Korea, the racist government of South Africa, the Salazar Government of Angola and in other parts of the two continents.

The stand of the Arab Nation on the front line of the total struggle carried out by the Afro-Asian peoples, and its direct confrontation of this aggressive imperialist base, make it a direct target of the imperialist strategy which depends on Israel as a tool to carry out this aggression which, in its reality, results and dangers, is directed against the peoples of Asia and Africa. The liberation struggle of our peoples has taught us how to face together the conspiracies of imperialism and its challenge; any setback to freedom in one place is followed by setbacks in several others places, and any blow directed at the cause of progress and a just peace aimed at one people means that other blows will fall on other peoples.

It is equally obvious that imperialism has used Israel as a front-line military base in order to achieve its sinister objective that does not merely lie in their efforts to shake the self confidence of the Arab nation and in breaking up their will as reflected in Arab unity, but seeks as well to split the closely bound fighting solidarity and the vital links between the achievement of the Arab revolution and its aims on the one hand, and the struggle waged by Afro-Asian peoples against imperialism, and in order to attain full and complete political, economic and social liberation and also social and economic reconstruction on the other. Imperialism seeks to paralyze the energy that feeds this struggle, the stands taken by the progressive revolutionary States of Arab homeland, together with the people of Africa and Asia, thus answering the call of duty dictated by their full consciousness of the unity of the common struggle and the necessity of uniting anti-imperialist forces in order to face the aggressive imperialist front led by the United States which includes Great Britain, West Germany and the other imperialist forces of this world.

The recent aggressive plot was planned with great cunning efficiency; it was planned in order to hide the reality personified by Israel as an instrument of world imperialism, and an extension of

American domination machinery as well as a means of total aggressive strategy; the campaign of deceit reached its climax with the attempt to hide the two objectives of the conspiracy. This campaign of deceit was quickly found out, and all free people in the world became aware of the fact that it was not a question of passage through the Straights of Tiran or the Gulf of Aqaba, or even a matter of self-defence, as Zionism claims, and as world reaction and its propaganda services echo. The real problem is basically a part of the imperialist strategy against the liberation movement at a world level.

The consequences of this new aggressive conspiracy, in addition to the other results it has achieved, and foremost among which the conquest of some parts of the neighbouring Arab countries and the whole of what remained of Arab Palestine, and the eviction of its people, turning some of them into homeless refugees with no means of existence and keeping some others in bondage, living under the worst conditions of oppression, inequity and near annihilation, those consequences were to rid these lands of their rightful owners who had been living there since times immemorial in order to be able to resettle them with new millions of Jewish immigrants, in all points similar to those who are practising the worst kinds of racial discrimination practised in South Africa, Zimbabwe and other parts of the African continent.

The policy of racial discrimination and apartheid carried out by Israel needs no proof. Official racial animosity is shown to all the Arabs of occupied Palestine. The latter are treated like prisoners in isolated sectors and are fast bound by a series of ties and by military legislation that restricts their movements, and that deprives them of the most elementary human rights of expression, production, education, civic rights, religious practice and the occupation of governmental jobs. There is no doubt that these measures are to a very large degree similar in their criminal nature to the Nazi oppressive measures that were imposed upon the

peoples who were under their domination.

There is little doubt also that these infamous measures are by nature zionist in their reactionary and racialist character, since they were founded on a basis of racial supremacy.

The imperialist Zionist aggression has been revealed to the Arab people as a method lacking in all aspects of morality and humanity, which the Israeli aggressors unhesitatingly resorted to in order to attain their wicked objectives. They had recourse to massacre and collective annihilation campaigns as well as whole scale evictions, destruction of towns and villages and wiping out every trace of them, such as happened in several villages and towns lying on the Western banks of the Jordan River. The Israelis also used Napalm incendiary bombs, prohibited by International Conventions, bombarded hospitals, First Aid Centers and ambulance cars, schools and religious establishments; they brought down orphanages on the heads of children, old people and women, unarmed people, they carried out rapine and loot in shops and houses.

There is no doubt that the usurpation of the Holy places of Islam and Christianity represents, in addition to all the other inequities, the mentality that does not differ in its nature from the atrocities committed by Nazism and Fascism to the human race.

This is the true picture of Israel and such is her true face. And yet world Zionism has been able, with close assistance of world imperialism led by the United States, and of which Israel is an indivisible part, to mislead world public opinion through the publicity organs intended to serve the interests of imperialism and Zionism and to distort intentional1y the facts. There is no need for us to define the fundamental reactionary character of Zionist philosophy upon which Israel was founded, and which is in contradiction with all the components of progressive thought and the basic facts of contemporary enlighted scientific attitude.

There seems to be no need for us to reveal the truth about

zionist allegation on the democratic picture given for Israel. Israel is pictured as a quiet lamb fearful of its neighbours. The false façade of democracy in Israel hides behind it the dictatorship of military rule to which all other sides of life are subject. The picture of the quiet lamb hides behind it a blood thirsty wolf ready to spring at its neighbours at any time.

It is necessary here to assert the truth about Israel, who on all international instances stands always against free peoples, and the movements of progress and liberation in Africa and Asia. She is committed to stand at the side of imperialist forces whose integral part she is.

The falsity of Israel and her baseless allegations could not however influence the forces of freedom throughout the world. The convening of this Conference, attended by more than 60 countries, and the full and total support for the Arab people shown by them, as well as the messages of support from all freedom loving centres of the world, constitutes a clear-cut proof that freedom loving peoples are not misled by falsities and untrue allegations.

The crisis the Arab nation is going through is an opportunity for the Arabs to know their friends from their enemies. This crisis has proved that the Arab people do not stand alone in the battle. All the forces of good, freedom and peace throughout the world stand by the side of the Arab nation. At the head of those are the Soviet Union and other Socialist States, as well as all anti-colonialist forces in the Third World.

The United States, Britain, West Germany and their satellites have been revealed in their true light as the practical personification of aggression of the freedom of peoples and their rights, on the exploitation of their wealth and the sucking of their life blood.

West German imperialism played a major part in consolidating Israel and encouraging her imperialist policy of aggression. West

Germany also participated in the recent aggression by continuously extending material aid in the form of millions of German marks as well as gigantic military assistance.

The peace call of Mr. Johnson is nothing more than a cover for his true intentions and those of his rapacious and aggressive government.

In this respect the States of Asia, Africa and Latin America should revise their attitudes since their support of aggression and territorial gains resulting from it can only help to intensify and consolidate a policy of which their peoples may at some future time be a victim.

It is the paramount duty of Asian and African peoples represented in this Conference to condemn the treacherous aggression and to demand the removal of all its effects. They should plan a complete revolutionary strategy that would ensure the victory of the forces of liberation over this total aggressive design.

In recognition of the savagery of the imperialist, colonialist aggression against the very existence of our people and against their struggle and liberation, and in recognition of the inevitability of a common confrontation in this one battle of destiny, we must, in our approach to this and other acts of aggression, go beyond denunciation or moral support and call for all practical measures and means which would mobilize the human, economic, military and political potentials of our people to face the common enemy.

Starting from these premises and principles that we declared, in the light of what had been said by the various delegations, the Arab nation must continue its heroic struggle, with all means and methods, and to extend all sacrifices for the victory of its just cause and its legitimate rights, the African and Asian nations must stand by its side in the battle of all common destiny which is, at the same time, the battle of all struggling peoples, the battle of freedom, progress in the world.

1- **TO SUPPORT** all resolutions on Palestine adopted by the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement during its previous meetings.

2- **TO CONDEMN** imperialist-Israe1 aggression on the Arab territories with all vigour and to the fullest extent.

3- **TO EXERT** all possible pressure in the interests of the just cause of Arab people and to support it in its struggle against imperialism by using all possible material, moral, political and popular support, including the boycott of ships and aircraft of the aggressors.

4- **TO PURSUE** a course of action, using all available ways and means, to ensure the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the aggressive forces from all the territories they occupied, to impose the necessary indemnities on Israel for the losses incurred as a result of her aggression, and to remove all traces and consequences of aggression and its existence.

5- **TO REQUEST** Afro-Asian peoples to take action for the eradication of all traces of Imperialism, Colonialism and neo-colonialism and to liquidate the foreign military bases in their lands by all possible means.

6- **THE CONFERENCE BELIEVES** that the Asian, African and Latin American States as well as the progressive and socialist states should respond to the will of their peoples expressed in all fields and through all means, through sincere solidarity with the Arab people in the common cause, by condemning Israel and severing diplomatic relations with it and its boycott in economic, cultural and political fields.

7- **TO SUPPORT** the Arab people and the measures it adopted to repel the aggression, and to support them in seeking to nationalize their oil and use it as an effective weapon in the battle.

8- **TO URGE** Afro-Asian States to reconsider their positions in respect of imperialist States that had colluded in the recent Israeli aggression, in the light of their aggressive policy towards liberation movements.

9- **THE CONFERENCE RECORDS** its appreciation of the just efforts exerted by Afro-Asian-Latin American and socialist states to support the Arab Nation within and outside the U.N. It also denounces the stands adopted by some governments that complied with imperialist strategies and stood by the Zionist imperialist aggression.

10- **TO LEND** full support to the Arab people of Palestine in their just struggle for the recovery of their homeland and the restoration of their legitimate rights.

11- **TO RESIST** Israeli infiltration in Afro-Asian countries under all its aspects and forms in view of the fact that Israel is the tool of imperialist infiltration and a form of neo-colonialism.

12- **THE CONFERENCE CALLS** on progressive mass organizations of the world; workers, students, youth, women, writers, intellectuals and other organizations to stand by the Arab people in its liberation struggle to liquidate imperialist, colonialist, neo-colonialist, and Zionist bases in the Arab homeland.

13- **TO FULLY SUPPORT** the right of the people of Occupied Southern Yemen to freedom and to support their battle against imperialism and the so-called government of the Southern Federation, by all means and methods and to reject all solutions of a conciliatory and compromisory character founded on the principle of compromise that may be offered by imperialists, and to CONDEMN the atrocities and brutal acts perpetrated by imperialist forces in the region and to reject any claim for the internationalisation of any part of the territories included in the Occupied Southern region.

14- **TO STRONGLY DENOUNCE** the imperialist Israeli aggression on Arab territories and direct the struggle against U.S. imperialism, the principal force of aggression and war, which is the worst enemy of all the people of the whole world.

15- **TO ENTRUST** the Permanent Secretariat with the setting up of a commission to follow-up the implementation of these

resolutions.

The present battle lays upon the shoulders of all friends to think jointly and to act together, hand in hand and heart to heart, in order to enable us to foster and pursue the great hopes that have been opened to our peoples for the purpose of creating a better world in which freedom, justice and peace would prevail.

The Emergency Conference in Support of People Of Vietnam And In Solidarity With Their Struggle Against The Imperialist American Aggression**
7th-9th September 1968
Cairo - ARE

Political Resolution

Having listened to the reports by the delegations of North and South Vietnam and the speeches by delegations, "The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization Emergency Conference in Solidarity with the People of Vietnam in their Struggle against the American Aggression" held in Cairo from 7-9 September, 1968, decides:

For about fourteen years now, American imperialism has been grossly and systematically undermining the Geneva Agreements (1954) on Vietnam, violating the independence, integrity and neutrality of Laos, and continuously threatening and provoking Cambodia; thereby jeopardizing peace in South East Asia and the whole world.

American imperialism in South Vietnam manipulated an operation of its own making, curbed the nationalist movement in a barbaric manner, refused the conduction of general elections for the reunification of Vietnam and launched a special war then a civil war in a bid to turn the south into a military base and a new American colony and to divide Vietnam for ever.

In North Vietnam, American imperialism has been launching an unchecked war of destruction for four years including the Democratic Republic of Vietnam – which is an independent

* AAPSO Publications (No.28).

** Translated By: Mrs.Rosette Françis

sovereign state – shelling it in a barbaric manner in a bid to get out of its dubious role and involvement in the south, shake the Vietnamese people's determination to fight, and undermine the socialist edifice in Vietnam.

The war of aggression launched by US imperialism on Vietnam is one of the fiercest wars in the history of humanity as it tramples on all international laws and rights.

American imperialism imagined that it could crush the people of Vietnam with its huge campaign and sophisticated mass destruction weapons and barbaric crimes. However, the people of South Vietnam, and indeed of Vietnam as a whole, stood as one and launched a wonderful popular war in which they fought valiantly, put an end to the enemy's political and military maneuvers and are achieving victory day after day.

In South Vietnam, since Spring 1968, the National Front for the Liberation of Vietnam has led – in light of its political program – general assaults accompanied by uprisings in which the armed forces and the people fought valiantly, attacked the enemy's bases in cities and urban areas, achieved resounding victory which had far reaching impact inside the United States and on world public opinion, thereby carrying the Vietnamese people's resistance to a new stage.

The establishment of the alliance of nationalist and democratic forces and peace-lovers is in itself a triumph of the broad nationalist union's policy against the American aggressors for the national liberation of the people of South Vietnam, which will further isolate the enemy. Since then the armed forces and the people of South Vietnam have been mounting relentless assaults and uprisings, scoring tremendous victory and leading to the utter collapse of the Americans and their agents.

In North Vietnam, and in response to President Hue Che Minh's calls "Death better than servitude" and "nothing more precious than freedom and independence", the entire Vietnamese

people and army stood as one and led "the battle and production" to victory. They crushed the very basis of the American war of destruction, destroyed more than 3100 modern aircraft of various types, killed and captured thousands of pilots and shattered the myth of the "invincible US Air Force".

These resounding victories are the best proof that the people of Vietnam are strong enough to proceed with firm steps towards victory. These victories also prove that in our present age, a people – however small – can definitely overcome any imperialist aggressor, even if it were led by the US, the leader of world imperialism, if this people is united and determined to struggle for independence and freedom, and has the satisfaction and support of the people of the world.

The struggle of the Vietnamese people against American imperialism and for independence, freedom and the triumph of the crushed people and humanity at large has the full support and approval of the people of the socialist countries and the world at large. The movement in support of Vietnam against the American aggression is growing in all five continents and at the heart of the US itself. Such a broad movement is unprecedented in history.

Johnson's government found itself forced to declare "a limitation of the war" on North Vietnam and to accept the official Paris talks with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam after the tremendous losses it sustained, condemnation by American public opinion and difficulties at home and abroad.

All this means the tremendous defeat of the American aggressor and the victory of the Vietnamese people. It also means a maneuver by the Johnson government in a bid to appease the world and US public opinion which are strongly opposing the US aggression on Vietnam.

At the official Paris talks and faced with the decisive and fair stand by the delegate of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the US delegate insisted on stopping the bombardment and other

military operations in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in order to proceed to the problems of interest to both sides. For this reason the talks did not achieve any progress and the US did not abstain from its false claims of moderation, total abstention from escalation, prim pro quo and the north's invasion of the south. The aim is to create confusion and to put the American imperialist on the same footing with the victim, the Vietnamese people. Public opinion all over the world and inside the US condemned the stubborn US stand and crooked maneuvering.

Up till now, the US has not taken into account the demands of the Vietnamese people, the American people and the whole world and is continuing to consolidate its war of aggression in North and South Vietnam alike.

In South Vietnam, the US is doubling its forces, increasing its war expenditure and putting pressure on its agents to declare a state of general mobilization and is providing the US troops and their agents with more sophisticated and destructive weapons.

Since the beginning of spring this year, and following the heavy losses sustained by the American aggressors and their lackeys the rulers of Saigon, have been committing mean acts of retaliation using planes and B 52 bombers to savagely shell densely populated rural and urban areas - and even Saigon itself - in a bid to kill civilians including the elderly, women and children. They stepped up their repressive operations against civilians and sentenced in absentia the leaders of the national alliance of the democratic and peace-loving forces in Vietnam.

In North Vietnam, the US declared a "limitation" of its air raids but in fact it stepped its raids on the provinces north of the demilitarized zone - instead of spreading them over the whole of North Vietnam – and launched more ferocious air raids on it.

The number of air raids and targets and the quantities of bombs and missiles tangibly increased compared to those in the period proceeding 31 March 1968.

They went as far as using B52 strategic fighter bombers to pound every inch of land in collaboration with the naval ships and land artillery. Thus they ferociously pounded densely populated areas, churches, hospitals, schools and markets especially in the Phen Lin area near the truce marking lines.

All the abovementioned incidents unmask the so-called good intentions for peace that the US brags of. They also prove that despite the crushing defeat that the American aggressors sustained, they are still showing a good deal of intransigence and procrastination and have not abandoned their aggressive designs.

The Conference unanimously approved the following resolutions:

1- **Full support of** the struggle of the Vietnamese people against the American aggressors in defense of their basic national rights, namely their independence, sovereignty, territorial unity and integrity; and explicit recognition that the waging of this legitimate struggle is the entire Vietnamese people's right to self-defense as an inalienable right and a great contribution to the common cause of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the whole world in their struggle against the US-led imperialism and neo-colonialism for national independence, democracy, peace and social progress.

Great tribute to the outstanding victory scored by the Vietnamese armed forces and people in the south and the north, especially starting from spring 1968. These victories affirm the Vietnamese people's infinite steadfastness and valiance and are a good example for all the peoples struggling for liberation from aggression and from the imperialist and colonialist oppression.

Great tribute to South Vietnam's formation of an alliance of the nationalist, democratic and peace-loving forces in Vietnam.

2- **Full support of** the Vietnamese people's just stand as expressed in the four points made by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the political platform of the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam in line with the basic principles of the

Geneva Agreements in 1954, and with the status quo in Vietnam. This position is the basis for the best political solutions to the Vietnamese problem.

Full approval of the serious and fair stand adopted by the delegate of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam during the official Paris talks.

3- **Decisive condemnation of** the war of aggression launched by the US in South Vietnam , the war of destruction against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and its shameful crimes in Vietnam. Strong protest against the intransigent stance and procrastination maneuvers adopted by the US government in the official talks in Paris.

4- **The US government must put an end to** its war of aggression in Vietnam, and immediately and unconditionally stop its air raids and other military operations against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. It must also withdraw its own and its agents' forces from South Vietnam, recognize the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam as the real representative of the people of South Vietnam, hold negotiations with the Front on the problems of South Vietnam, and leave the South Vietnamese people run their own domestic affairs away from foreign intervention. It must also adopt a serious stand at the official talks in Paris, first and foremost by an unconditional halt of the air raids and all other military operations on the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in order to make it possible to move on to a discussion of the other issues of interest to the parties concerned.

5- **Our high esteem of** the movement in support of the people of Vietnam. The Conference appeals to the peoples of Africa, Asia and the whole world to work for expanding the movement of support against the American aggressors for the liberation of the homeland and to double all forms of support for the Vietnamese people - including sending volunteers – and at the same time put pressure on the US government in order to help the Vietnamese

conclusively defeat the American aggressors, assume their noble role and contribute to the Vietnamese cause which is a common cause for the peoples of Asia, Africa and all the peoples yearning for freedom and peace in our world.

The Conference expresses conviction that the heroic people of Vietnam – thanks to their strength, close unity and unwavering determination to continue the struggle for independence, freedom, and national unity; and thanks to the support by the socialist countries , Africa, Asia, Latin America and progressive humanity, including the progressive masses inside the US itself - will inevitably defeat the American aggressors and ultimately emerge victorious in their struggle in defense of the North, the liberation of the south and the re-liberation of the homeland.

The International Conference To Support The Peoples Of The Portugues Colonies And Southern Africa*
18th-20th January 1969
Khartoum-Sudan

Declaration

From more than fifty countries and from a number of international organizations we came to Khartoum to support those fighting to rid Africa of the remains of colonialism.

We met at a time when aggressive imperialism is challenged by the progressive forces of the world in victorious struggles for national liberation, peace and socialism. We met in a continent long subjected, humiliated and divided among the various European powers, whose peoples have arisen for independence, freedom and unity.

We met to face the challenge to Africa and to humanity presented by Portuguese colonialism and the white supremacy regimes of South Africa.

We heard fresh and authoritative reports from those who actually suffered, endured and fought against these vile tyrannies.

Our Conference heard with great indignation about the forced silencing of opposition of the thousands of African patriots suffering imprisonment, torture and death for demanding their rights and human dignity. We learnt with grave concern how the imperialist countries are backing the anti-African regimes with money and arms.

The Conference received authentic and alarming evidence of

* AAPSO Publications (No.32).

the serious threat presented by the imperialist backed Pretoria-Lisbon -Salisbury alliance to the independence of every African country and to world peace.

We have decided with unanimity that Africa and the world must take action to give more effective help to our brothers and sisters who are suffering and fighting for their own freedom, and for ours. Coming to Khartoum from all over Europe, from Asia, from America, North and South, we solemnly resolve that this Khartoum Conference shall prove a historic new stage of advance in Africa's march to freedom, independence and unity.

A state of war exists over a large area of the African continent. Since February 4th, 1961, the people of Angola, Guinea Bissao and Mozambique under the leadership of MPLA, PAIGC and FRELIMO have been fighting, in a vast armed confrontation, the crumbling Portuguese colonial empire, sustained by the NATO powers. The wars of national liberation in these African areas have reached a level where substantial areas have been liberated, have achieved sovereignty, where exploitation by international monopolies has been ended.

In Zimbabwe, the Guerrilla fighters of the military alliance of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) and the African National Congress (ANT) of South Africa are conducting increasingly wide spread guerrilla operations against combined police-military forces of the illegal Smith regime and fascist Republic of South Africa. In Namibia, guerrillas of the S.W. African Peoples' Organization (SWAPO) are fighting against the South African colonisers.

The spreading and developing warfare is of a direct and immediate concern to the whole world, and in the first place to the peoples of Africa. It is part of the world-wide anti-imperialist struggle; the fight of unconquerable Vietnamese people to rid their country of American imperialist intervention; of the mounting fight of the fraternal Arab peoples against imperialist-backed Zionist

aggression.

The war for Southern Africa is not only the internal problem of the liberation movements and peoples involved. It has already been internationalised.

PORTUGAL - the poorest and most backward country of Europe, could only carry on this ever-increasing share for West Germany, U.S., and other imperialist countries in the profits of the African territories concerned.

Similarly the racist regimes in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe are sustained by the massive practical support of world imperialism, who reap huge dividends from the natural wealth and to cheap forced labour of the African inhabitants, rightful masters of these lands.

Expansionist South African imperialism, in close alliance with Portuguese colonialism and the settler regime in Zimbabwe, and backed by world imperialism, constitutes a grave menace to the neighbouring African independent countries, and ultimately to the independence of every African State.

The existence of these racialist regimes, their aggressive alliance, and their economic, financial, political and military support by imperialism constitute a major threat to world peace.

The Conference declares its fervent and unequivocal support for the freedom fighters of the Portuguese Colonies and Southern Africa.

It calls upon the progressive, anti-imperialist forces of the entire world to back the armed struggles which have been formed upon them as the only possible alternative to clevery for the foreseeable future.

The Conference calls upon democratic forces every-on where to support the political demands of the liberation movements for independence, democracy and the unqualified and immediate implementation of majority rule.

The Conference calls on all governments to recognize the

liberation movements as the alternative and future governments of the territories concerned; to break off all relations with the illegal and despotic governments; to give every facility and aid to the representatives and supporters of the liberation movements and remove every let or hindrance to their noble missions.

The Conference calls on all democratic organizations and individuals in all countries constantly to educate public opinion regarding the true facts of the situation in unliberated Africa, to collect and contribute material aid for the freedom-fighters, for the defence and maintenance of political prisoners and their dependents; to isolate the racists from participation in every sort of international sporting, cultural and similar activities.

The Conference requests the World Peace Council and AAPSO to establish a machinery of close liaison in order to implement the above decisions.

Forward to the Liberation of the Portuguese Colonies and the oppressed Lands of Southern Africa!

Freedom for the South- the Only Safeguard of African Independence, Unity and Peace!

The Second International Conference in support of the Arab Peoples*
25th-28th January 1969
Cairo-Egypt

Declaration

Representatives from 74 countries and 15 international organizations, alarmed by Israel's manifest will for expansion and the threat which it poses to peace in the Middle East and the world at large, have met in Cairo, at the Second International Conference in support of the Arab peoples.

They come from all continents and from widely ranging political and philosophic horizons, in order to demonstrate their solidarity with the Arab peoples and to look with them for ways and means to put an end to injustice and oppression of which these peoples are victims.

Vast parts of the territories of the United Arab Republic, Jordan and Syria are under the occupation of the Israeli Aggressors. The Palestinian people, already driven out from their homeland twenty years ago, find themselves once more and in greater numbers without shelter, dispersed, and subjected to the persecution and racial discrimination of the invadors.

Like all peoples whose territories are invaded, the Arab peoples are organizing resistance against the invadors. Those peoples whose countries were invaded during the 2nd World War should be the first to understand them.

To extend its territory, Israel has launched a policy which

* AAPSO Publications (No.139).

confirms its dual character as an expansionist State and a base and proves it to be the instrument of the imperialist forces and the big interests who wish to continue to exploit the natural riches of this region and impede the Arab peoples' march towards progress. To achieve this end, Israel has been armed to the teeth by the interested powers. It has allied itself with the racist regimes of Southern Africa and the Portuguese colonies which oppress peoples in Africa and deny them their independence.

Throughout the aggressions that it committed and during its occupation of the conquered territories, Israel has continued to violate the principles of the Declaration of Human Rights. It has not only used the most devastating weapons (such as napalm prohibited by international rules), but also exerts most inhuman methods of pressure against the civilian inhabitants: destruction of dwellings, mass arrests, collective sanctions imprisonment, torture and many restrictions on the life of families and the population.

These measures are taken in defiance of international rules governing the right of populations in occupied territories.

The conference is of the view that all information media should be mobilized to enlighten world public opinion, kept in Israel and its supporters.

It is an incumbent moral and political duty of all participants to this conference to reveal the truth and spread it through the press, the radio, television, demonstrations, visits of delegation, and the organization of seminars and conferences in the West and through all continents.

All honest men should be aware of their duty of solidarity not only towards the refugees but also those fighting to regain their rights in Palestine and those Arabs who are now striving to transform their homelands into countries decisively committed to the improvement of the condition of man.

Israel owes its very existence as a state to an extraordinary decision of the United Nations, but for more than 20 years it has

continued to reject every resolution advanced by this body for the restoration of some of the rights of the Palestinian people. On November 22, 1967, the U.S. Security Council adopted a resolution which is being frustrated by Israel's refusal to implement it.

Such a refusal, in the contest of Israel's recent actions gives substance - like the Statements of certain prominent Israelis - to the suspicion that Israel's ultimate ambition embraces an empire extending from the Nile to the Euphrates.

Faced with these conditions, and having exhausted all other means, the Palestinian peoples have been forced to resort to aims to recover a homeland which international justice has failed to restore to them. Their movement has already acquired the character of an authentic national liberation movement which deserves all due support.

The other Arab peoples are justifiably concerned about an enemy seeking to impose its "diktat" under the cover of peace.

The evacuation of territories occupied by Israel, including Jerusalem and the reopening of the Suez Canal would undoubtedly mark a first step towards the realization of peace in the Middle East.

However, one cannot conceive of a state of genuine peace in this part of the world, if the Arab people of Palestine are not enabled to exercise self-determination on their own land.

It would advance the cause of peace in the world if the U.N. and the Security Council would force Israel to evacuate unconditionally all the occupied territories, without any further delay.

It is the duty of the public opinion throughout the world to secure from the U.N., the taking of measures of coercion vis-à-vis Israel before it becomes too late to prevent the repetition of acts of aggression of which we can see daily examples, such as the attack on Beirut, and to prevent the escalation of aggression such

as must lead to a generalized war.

The solidarity of large sectors of democratic forces of public opinion with the fight of the Arab people has made their case clear and has reinforced their position. Israel's attitude represents a challenge to human conscience and is a violation of the most cherished values of humanity: Justice, law, liberty and peace.

All mankind must meet this challenge; Arab peoples must regain the integrity of their territories; the Palestinian people must recover their homeland so that all may exercise to the full their right to self-determination.

The Conference calls upon all peoples to act so that imperialism can no longer threaten the peace of the world by perpetuating an injustice which for so long has victimized the Arab peoples.

The Emergency International Conference In Support Of The Indo-Chinese Peoples*
20th-21st May 1972
Cairo-ARE

General Declaration

The peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia are living days of heroic fights and of glorious victory in their combat against U.S. imperialists for their national salvation.

Since the 8th of May 1972, President Nixon of the U.S. has taken new measures of extreme gravity in the escalation of war by issuing his orders of mining the routes and water ways of the ports of the D.R.V. and to blockade them in order to prevent international vessels from navigating therein. Moreover, he has ordered the intensification of naval and serial attacks in the D.R.V. and the intensification of bombing to a degree never attained before against densely inhabited areas of South Vietnam, thus perpetrating blatant crimes against the sovereignty and security of the three countries and openly violating the fundamental principles of international law.

In South Vietnam, under the glorious banner of the national liberation front and of the provisional revolutionary government of the Republic of South Vietnam, the people and the popular armed forces of liberation are determined to fight and defeat American imperialists and their puppets and they have achieved great victories in their fight for liberation, independence, liberty, peace, neutrality and progress in South Vietnam. During the recent

* AAPSO Publications (No.139).

offensive, the armed forces and the people of South Vietnam have delivered smashing blows to American imperialist and their hirelings, destroying a good deal of the vital and material strength of the enemy, thus defeating the American pacifying scheme, and liberating millions of inhabitants, dooming the Nixon policy of Vietnamization of the war to complete bankruptcy.

Launching on their part a generalised offensive, the popular armed forces of liberation of Cambodia have destroyed and occupied, as reported by the latest news, 24 key positions in several strategic bases strongly defended by several infantry battalions and Saigonese armoured squadrons, thus cutting all land and river ways of penetration in South Vietnam towards Phnom Penh. The traitors group of Lon Nol-Song Ngos Thanh and Sirik Metak is bereft from all help and caught in a tight corner in the capital, which in turn is continuously harassed.

This great military victory which further enlarges the liberated zone - more than 8/10 of the country - gives with the political and diplomatic victory of the Royal Government of National Unity of Cambodia already recognized by 20 States - an irresistible thrust towards final victory.

Severely defeated in the two areas of Vietnam, utterly condemned by world opinion and American opinion, the American forces have also undergone cruel defeats in Laos. The Lao people, their popular forces of Saigon, upheld by American forces on Road No. 9 in lower Laos at the beginning of 1971. The heroic forces of resistance are heaping victory upon victory on the Lao territory. The people and its armed forces have succeeded in checking the wide-scale military U.S. operations and puppet operations directed against the liberated area in lower Laos and in the Jar plain as well as in Miong Sui in Upper Laos. The special war waged by Americans, the Nixon doctrine applied to Laos, are on the way to complete unavoidable bankruptcy.

It is with a stout determination that the people of North Vietnam

fights for vanquishing, being always vigilant and ready for the combat. They have thus inflicted a well deserved defeat to American aggressors and shot down still more American aircraft and adding new numbers of American pilots as POW.

In its Declaration of 10th May, the Government of the D.R.V. has severely condemned the new escalation of the war waged by the Nixon administration. At the same time these Declarations have shown the good will illustrated by their desire to resume the discussions of the Paris Conference in order to negotiate seriously a solution of the Vietnamese problem. But the determination of the Indochinese countries, often confirmed, to persevere in the fight as long as necessary to achieve final and total victory, have won the sympathy and the support of all world opinion.

The Emergency Conference for the Support of Indochinese peoples, held in Cairo on 20th and 21st May, 1972, warmly hails these victories which have clearly shown that the policy of Vietnamizing or Khmerizing or Laosing the war, is in full bankruptcy. They have also shown the obvious failure of the Nixon doctrine.

The Conference unanimously **considers** that the fight of the Indochinese peoples for their independence and freedom is a fight serving the interests of Afro-Asian peoples and of all mankind. This fight is the fulcrum of the peoples of Africa, Asia and the whole world against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, led by American imperialism, for the sake of independence, peace, democracy and social progress. Thus, the Conference holds as a matter of extreme importance a regeneration of the anti-imperialist movement against the U.S. and in favour of the noble cause of the Indochinese peoples.

The Conference vigorously **condemns** the new escalation of the destructive war and of the other military operations against the D.R.V. and the crimes of genocide, biocide and ecocide perpetrated in all Indochina.

The Conference **requests** that the U.S. administration put an end to its aggressive war against the Indochinese countries and let the Indochinese peoples decide their own destiny without foreign interference.

The Conference **requests** that the Nixon administration put an immediate and unconditional end to the bombings and laying of mines and other military activities against the D.R.V. and put an end also to the U.S. policy of Vietnamising the war. The Conference requests that the Nixon administration give a serious answer to the 7 points proposal of the GRP RSVN, and regularly attend the Paris Conference and seriously negotiate in order to attain a peaceful solution of the Vietnamese problem.

The Conference **demands** from the governments of non-aligned countries and of progressive and peace and justice-loving countries to recognize "de jure" the Royal Government of National Unity of Cambodia as the only representative and lawful government.

The Conference is **convinced** that the peoples of Indochina shall achieve victory through their unity and their determination and with the support, increasing from day to day, of the peoples of Africa, Asia and the world. American imperialism, number one enemy of the peoples of the world, shall be defeated.

Long live the militant solidarity of Afro-Asian peoples and of peoples of the world !

Glory to the peoples in their fight against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, led by American colonialism !

The International Conference for Solidarity with the Korean Peoples Struggle for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Their Country* 18th - 19th January, 1975 Baghdad - IRAQ

General Declaration

Under the auspices of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, and Iraqi Council for Peace and Solidarity in cooperation with the Koran Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee the "Conference of International Solidarity with the Koran People Fighting for the Independent, Peaceful Reunification of the Country" was held on January 18-19, 1975 in Baghdad, the capital of Iraq.

Holding this Conference is in consonance with out great international task to consolidate the solidarity of the Afro-Asian peoples' struggles and with the world struggle of the anti-imperialist forces.

Representatives from the member organizations of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, of international democratic organizations and regional organizations and personages from the political, social and press circles in many countries of the world participated in the Conference.

Being unaninously resolved to further strengthen an international solidarity movement with the just struggle of the Korean people for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country, the Conference declares the following:

The world peace-loving people warmly welcomed the

* AAPSO Publications (No.139).

North-South Joint Statement with the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity as its main content published on July 4, 1972, thanks to the persevering efforts of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and have already watched the North-South dialogue for achieving national reunification with great expectation and hope.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has made all sincere efforts to implement to agreed pooints of the North-South Joint Statement and realize the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The five points proposition put forward by President KIM IL SUNG concerning the reunification of Korea are positive. The main content of this proposal is to eliminate military confrontation and ease tension, to materialize many-sided collaboration and interchange between the North and South, to convene a Great National Congress composed of representatives of people of all walks of life and political parties and social organizations in the North and South, to institute a North-South Conference under the single name of the Confederal Republic of Korea, and enter the U.N. under the one name of the Confederal Republic of Korea, which is supported by the entire Korean people and all the progressive peoples of the world over.

The U.S. Imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, however, turned down all the patriotic and peace-loving proposals of the Government of the D.P.R.K. and are running wild to create "two Koreas". The Conference resolutely rejects the plot of U.S. imperialism and its stooges to create "two Koreas considering that it not only perpetuates the division of Korea, but also creates a great danger to peace in Asia and the whole world.

Under the instigation of U.S. imperialism the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique only violated the North-South Joint Statement and brought the North-South dialogue to a deadlock while further

intensifying military provocations against the Northern half of the Republic and facist suppression of the South Korean people.

The course of North-South dialogue shows that as long as the U.S. aggression troops occupy South Korea and interfere in the internal affairs of Korea, there is no possibility for the successful progress of the dialogue and the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

In order to realize the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and preserve peace in this region, the U.S. troops must withdraw from South Korea and the United States accept the proposal of the D:P.R.K. on concluding a peace agreement.

The Conference strongly condemns the U.S. Imeperialists who are desperately trying to perpetuate their occupation of South Korea, hold its as their permanent colony and military base, despatch into South Korea mass destructive weapons includin nuclear weapons and provoke another war in Korea.

The Conference further condemns the attempts of the Japanese Militarists who are giving active support to the puppet regime of South Korea and the Conference registers its protest against the persecution of the Koran residents in Japan and Chongyon and supports their struggle to defend their democratic national rights.

The Conference expresses full support and firm solidarity with the militant struggle of the South Korean people, the youth and students in particular, for the democratization of society and reunification of the country.

The Conference demands that the South Korea authorities must stop immediately the fascist suppression of the South Korean people, and release at once all the patriots arrested and imprisoned.

The struggle of the Korean people for the reunification of the country is the common cause of the Afro-Asian peoples and is an integral part of the anti-imperialist, national liberation struggles

being waged throughout the world.

We are passing through a comprehensive world-wide stage of confrontation between the anti-imperialist forces: the Socialist countries, labour and democratic movements, and national liberation movements fighting for independence, self-determination, peace and international security on the one hand, and the imperialist and reactionary forces on the other hand. We are convinced that history is on our side as long as we stand united.

The imperialist aggressive forces are creating obstacles on the path of détente and are responsible for creating new tensions. Their plots in the Arab Gulf and the Indian Ocean regions with such military bases as Diego Garcia have aroused deep indignation and protests. They continue their intervention and aggression in Indo-China and their violation of the Peace Agreement on Vietnam. In the Middle East and Cyprus their nefarious plans are condemned by the whole world public opinion. The repeated threats by U.S. imperialists to occupy Arab oil-fields is the latest example of their naked fascist character.

We firmly support the struggle of the peoples of Indo-China. We demand the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the national rights of the Arab Palestinian people to return to their homeland and self-determination. We support the struggle of the people of the Arab Gulf against imperialist intervention and reaction. We support the struggles of the peoples of French and Arab Somalia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, South Africa, Eritrea, Comoros Islands for complete independence and we hail and greet the historical victories of the peoples of Angola, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome, Principe and Mozambique. We hail the victory of the democratic forces in Portugal and Greece against the fascist regimes there. The fighting people of Chili and other Latin American peoples in the anti-imperialist struggle have our full

solidarity.

In this context it is the duty of all anti-imperialist forces to unite together and support the just cause of the People of Korea.

It is a part of the world-wide struggle for peace, security and independence.

The unity and cooperation of anti-imperialist forces is a vital necessity for defeating the imperialist and neo-colonialist offensives and for ensuring independence, peace, security and sovereignty of the countries of Asia and the whole world.

The coming together of all anti-imperialist forces in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the world over irrespective of their social systems; and closer economic and cultural cooperation will ensure speedy realization of their victory. In the process of this development U.S. imperialism has to quit from Korea look, stock and barrel.

The Conference fully supports the cause of the Korean People for the reunification of their country and calls upon peace-loving peoples the world over to consider this cause as theirs as well as to further strengthen international solidarity with the just struggle of the Korean People for repulsing the aggression and intervention of outside forces and achieving sovereignty on a nation-wide scale.

Korea is one and the Korean nation can never be divided into two. Korea must be reunified by the Korean people themselves without outside interferences.

AAPSO International Conference In Solidarity With Mozambique, Angola, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome And Principe*
27th - 28th September, 1975
Lourenço - Morques - Mozambique
General Declaration
To Reinforce The Aid For Consolidating The Independence Won By The Struggle

Upon the invitation of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization on September 27 - 28, 1975 in LourenÃ§e Marques, capital of the People's Republic of Mozambique, we, representatives of 47 countries and international organizations, met to express our unconditional solidarity with the valliant peoples of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, and to offer our contribution to the consolidation of the independence and the popular regimes established by virtues of the victory of their heroic struggle.

We, participants of the Conference in Lourenço Marques, extend to the valliant people of Mozambique, the FRELIMO and the Government of Mozambique our deepest thanks for the warm reception which was granted us.

We express, in particular, our gratitude to our great Comrade, President SAMORA MOISES MACHEL, whose outstanding opening speech is considered a valuable document of work and a new weapon in the battle.

As we have always done in the past, we support the struggle of the brotherly peoples of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, and Sao Tome and Principe because their battle in our battle. They have vanquished the imperialist-colonialist

* AAPSO Publications (No.72).

aggression, and this has reinforced our own battles against imperialism, the permanent enemy of the peoples.

Today, the edification of the peoples' regimes in these new states shifts to our favour the balance of power against the enemy and consolidates the democratic forces on the African and international scale, creating more favourable conditions for the affirmation of our political independence and for the intensification of the common battle for the right of our peoples to use to their own profit, their own natural resources and the outcome of their own work.

This contribution made by the peoples of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, and Sao Tome and Principe springs from the popular nature of the political and strategic line followed by the FRELIMO, the MPLA, the PAIGC and the MLSTP.

These liberation movements are defending the interests of the exploited masses; to whom they have dedicated their leadership and with whom they identified themselves. They have always known how to realize a wide front and to unite all the patriotic strata and to guide them in the process of entrenching both in content and in aim, the struggle for liberation.

The peoples' wars of liberation respectively waged by the MPLA on February 4, 1961, by PAIGC on January 23, 1963, and by the FRELIMO on September 25, 1964 have created the national bases for eliminating the factors of division, for raising the foundations of class and national unity and to recruit in the patriotic and revolutionary struggle millions of men and women. As such the powerful forces which crushed the colonial-imperialist aggression and which caused the fascist Portuguese system to crumble down have been brought into being. Due to its just cause the struggle of the people of the former Portuguese colonies could contribute directly to the liberation of the colonialist metropolis itself.

The victory of the people of Mozambique allowed the

Democratic People's Power to spread all over the countries in which it had already been set up in the liberated areas. This is a major contribution to the consolidation of the progressive regimes in southern and eastern Africa and has paved the way for liberty, democracy and progress to knock on the gates of the imperialist and racist strongholds in the area. The imperialist forces will never resign to their inevitable defeat and will multiply their manoeuvres, provocations and menaces of aggression which are all doomed to failure, before the determination of the people of Mozambique who are strengthened by the active support and the vigilance of the progressive peoples and countries in the whole world.

We can safely say that all peoples of the world are standing by the side of the people of Mozambique and will never stand hand-folded before any aggression against the people of this sister country.

In Angola, after the fall of Portuguese colonialism and the manifest declaration of popular support for the MPLA, imperialist forces declared a new aggressive war against the people of Angola with the aim of liquidating its national independence and disrupting the structure of popular power for which the people had fought for fourteen years.

Imperialism has always employed certain elements which have always acted as active agents of foreign interests. Under the cover of allegedly liberation movements, these elements in effect have tried to induce the partition of national territories and have introduced mercenary forces in the country. Despite their patriotic affirmation, these anti-nationalist forces have accepted the occupation of parts of the national territories by South African forces.

It is our duty to support in full the MPLA, which in the past had already succeeded in leading the battle against Portuguese colonialism and which until the present moment is the only force defending the peoples' interests and territorial integrity against

foreign occupation.

We demand that the Portuguese Government recognises the reality of the actual existence in Angola of a Government headed by the MPLA which ensures in the meantime the defence of the country against foreign aggression.

The Portuguese Government must abstain from launching appeals to the international organizations and alien forces for an intervention in Angola.

We believe that the decisive test of the will of the Portuguese regime for decolonisation, is that on the 11th of November, under any circumstances, power should be transferred to the people's legitimate representative the MPLA.

After a long and victorious struggle, peoples' regimes have been established in the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, thus consolidating the progressive camp in the Western region of Africa.

To avoid this situation, the enemy tried to divide the brethren peoples, but the PAIGC, confident of the peoples' massive support, continued successfully the process of realizing their national unity. This unity has been strengthened in the battle for national reconstruction.

With the attainment of the independence, the People's Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe has started to build a new society where power belongs to the people.

It has thus undertaken the struggle against hunger, unemployment and ignorance.

We stand in total solidarity with the People's Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and we will firmly support its struggle against any reactionary and imperialist force, and any attempt of new colonialism to dominate the country.

In Timor-Leste, imperialism, supported by its lackeys, works against the people headed by its vanguard organization the FRETILIN. The blows dealt by the reactionary and puppet forces

form part of this framework. But, to the anti-nationalist and anti-popular action the FRETILIN has opposed the firm support of the masses, thus realising the successful and total control of the territory. In the face of this victory and in order to impose a new alien occupation, the imperialist forces try to internationalise the problem.

We demand that these anti-popular actions be stopped and we reaffirm our support of the struggle of the peoples of Timor-Leste for national independence and for their right to establish the socio-economic system best suited to their interests.

The Afro-Asian movement has tried to accomplish its internationalist duty during the anti-colonialist struggle of these brotherly peoples, particularly in the field of mobilisation of world public opinion.

With the independence of Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, our duty of support to these peoples must not stop.

These brotherly peoples have achieved their independence after five centuries of colonial plunder and more than a decade of cruel war aggression. We find everywhere displaced populations, concentration camps, orphans, windows, mutilated people, villages burnt with napalm, economic sabotage of all kinds, as well as a very serious lack of technical cadres particularly in the spheres of health and education.

The scope of solidarity is very vast and our material support must be the consequent prerequisite of the political and diplomatic support which we have accorded to the peoples of the former Portuguese colonies.

We deem it our duty to consolidate the victories dearly won by our brothers. This consolidation is all the more important because it is one of the conditions of the victory of our struggle for the total liberation of Southern Africa.

The downfall of the Portuguese colonial system has deeply

upset the balance of forces in Southern Africa. The African peoples demonstrated that they were capable of defeating all forces of aggression, no matter how powerful they may be.

The racist regimes have been able to note that the hour of defeat was imminent and that henceforth liberty was having common borders with the racist empire.

In the face of this situation, the Republic of South Africa has recourse to new tactics: "detente", dialogue, economic penetration in independent states, as well as the abandonment of the policy of "petty Apartheid" etc.

In actual fact, the racist regime seeks to maintain its domination by other means. We declare that according to facts, Apartheid remains, and so long as it remains we will unswervingly support our South African brothers, in their just struggle under the leadership of ANC.

In Rhodesia, Ian Smith refuses to bow to the legitimate demands of the people, and intensifies aggression against the masses, and makes ready to spread war beyond the Rhodesian frontiers.

We proclaim our support for the ANC, the African National Council, which leads in a unitary manner the people of Zimbabwe in its just struggle for national independence.

In Namibia, the people, under the leadership of SWAPO, pursues its just struggle for national independence and territorial integrity. We stand by its side.

We support the just position taken by Africa vis-Ã -vis the Dar-es-Salaam Declaration concerning the strategy of the liberation struggle in Southern Africa, that is, that Africa while wishing for a peaceful and just solution to the conflict between the peoples and the racist regimes, pledges to accord its support to the armed liberation struggle, so long as these regimes refuse to accept the peoples' will.

Imperialism, in an ugly manoeuvre to destroy the contents of

the detente achieved in Europe, thanks to the peoples' pressure and to efforts of Socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union, tries to shift tension to new geographical zones.

To the detriment of the legitimate demands of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean, imperialism strengthens its military bases of the Indian Ocean, imperialism strengthens its military bases, its war fleet in the area, and introduces nuclear arms and weapons of mass destruction. In so doing, it goes as far as to encroach on the sovereignty right of states, and does not hesitate to undertake actions of secession as in the flagrant case at the Comoro Islands.

We resolutely support the combat of the littoral states on the Indian Ocean for liberating their zones from foreign military bases, demand the denuclearization of the ocean and the ousting of the foreign war fleets from the area.

This struggle constitutes, for us, a major battle for the defence of peace and security of Afro-Asian countries. On this battle and its success depends the security of our countries and our right to freely choose the socio-economic system which corresponds best with our interests.

Another area of tension which directly concerns us is the Middle East.

We express our anxiety concerning the situation prevailing in the Middle East and which represents a menace to world peace and to the efforts towards the international detente. This situation results from the obstinate attitude and the manoeuvres of American imperialism and Zionism.

This is why the Conference supports the legitimate struggle undertaken by the Arab countries with the aim of recovering by all means of the usurped territories. The Conference also supports the just struggle of the Palestinian people for the recovery of their legitimate rights and their right of self-determination in their own homeland and the creation of a national state.

We therefore appeal for a firm support for the struggle of the

Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO for a complete restoration of their national rights and their return to their homeland and the realization of their right of self-determination and the establishment of an independent national state.

The International Conference of Solidarity with the Peoples of Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea-Bissau supports the struggles of the peoples of the Arab Peninsula and Arab Gulf and declares its solidarity with them in their fight for liberation, democracy and national independence as well as in their fight against American and Zionist intervention in Bahrain and Southern entrances to the Red Sea.

It condemns the U.S. imperialist threats to occupy the oil resources and supports the struggle of the people of this region to obtain their rights to benefit by their natural wealths and to choose the means of developing them.

The victory of our brethren in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos constitutes a source of encouragement in our common struggle. This victory has created more favourable conditions for the revolutionary upsurge in the Afro-Asian countries. It is a strategic victory in the field of world revolution.

We condemn the imperialist manoeuvres which aim at preventing the admission of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of South Vietnam to the United Nations.

We support the just combat of the People's Republic of China for the sake of reintegrating the Province of Taiwan into the motherland.

We support the just struggle of the Korean people for the peaceful unification of their country, the evacuation of American forces from the southern territories and the consolidation of the revolutionary gains in the northern territories.

We stand by the side of the Cypriot brotherly people in defence of their unity and national independence against imperialist manoeuvres and for the application of the UN resolutions.

The Conference supports the struggle for the liberation of the so-called Spanish Sahara which is still under the Spanish colonialist domination.

We reaffirm our solidarity with the people of Chile in their struggle against the fascist sanguine dictatorship. We firmly support the international campaign in favour of the immediate release of Comrade Louis Corvolin and all other political prisoners.

The Conference calls upon the international community represented at the UN and all other organizations to assume their responsibilities concerning states and peoples, not only to fulfill the duties dictated by the international responsibilities but also the responsibilities dictated by the justice to be accorded to peoples whose wealth remained for a long period of time subject to plunder, facing deliberate imperialist plans to impoverish them and to alienate their technical possibilities. The Conference also calls upon the international community to assume its particular responsibilities towards these people. To this effect, the Conference strongly supports the decisions made by the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on the rights of peoples to utilize their natural resources and to establish a new international economic order.

We mandate the Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO to contact the national committees and the popular and international organizations to adopt measures and programmes of action capable of making this Declaration of Lourenço Marques and important milestone on the way of the struggle of our new states and other Afro-Asian peoples.

We, participants at the International Conference of Solidarity with Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, backed by the victories of these peoples and brothers and inspired by the victory of Indochina, pledge to realize everyday more developments in our joint struggle against

imperialism.

Our peoples and our countries want independence and democracy and peace, our peoples are dedicated to the task of developing the revolutionary struggle.

At this moment, when the stage of anti-colonialist struggle has been achieved, we salute the fraternal aid extended to the liberation struggle by the Socialist countries, the natural allies of the national liberation movements. This aid which took form on political, material, moral and diplomatic levels was a powerful contribution to the efforts of liberation accomplished by dominated peoples.

We reassert our common will to enhance our cohesion and our unity of action with the Socialist countries, with all the forces of the world's anti-imperialist front: the Afro-Asian countries and especially the working class and democratic forces in the capitalist countries, developing our means of cooperation and the foundations of our Afro-Asian Solidarity as an indispensable condition for our common success in the struggle to enhance total liberation and socio-economic prosperity for our peoples and nations.

The Emergency International Solidarity Conference With The People Of Angola* 2nd-3rd February 1976 Luanda - Angola

General Declaration

At the invitation of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, we, representatives of 63 countries and 82 national, regional and international organizations, have met on February 2,3 and 4 in Luanda, capital of the People's Republic of Angola, to express solidarity with the valiant people of this country in the historical battle they are waging today to achieve and consolidate their national independence.

The liquidation of the colonialist Protuguese empire under the blows of the genuine liberation movements in Africa and following the establishment of the new independent states of the Republic of Guinea Bissau, People's Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Cape Verde Islands, Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and recently the People's Republic of Angola indicate that the balance of power in the region has changed radically in favour of the forces of national liberation and progress and prove that the tide of liberation is rising against the racist regimes in Southern Africa which now find themselves besieged in the territories that they continue to occupy illegally.

The flag of the People's Republic of Angola was hoisted over Luanda on November 10-11 night 1975, as the culmination of 15 years of valiant struggle of the Angolan people, under the same

* AAPSO Publications (No.75).

side of the enemy in an unnatural association with the racist South Africa and the US imperialism and their puppets.

Thus Angola became the battlefield of a basic confrontation between the national liberation movement and world imperialism. Hence, demarcation lines are well defined and clear cut. Today, there is no scope for speaking about reconciliation or coalition. There is no room for reconciling national forces and imperialist agents. Liberation forces cannot merge with the allies of colonialism and neo-colonialism. Nor can the forces of progress be coupled with the stigma of racism.

The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization which has always supported fighters for the freedom of Angola under the leadership of the MPLA and President Agostinho Neto and which has been prompted by its human and noble goals and by the common aspirations of all people struggling against the forces of imperialism, racism and neo-colonialism, today reaffirms its overall support for the People's Republic of Angola under the MPLA, which has become a symbol of the Angola people's determination to continue their triumphant march and to participate effectively in the march of the forces of progress and peace.

As we view with extreme happiness the great victories scored by the Angolan people who rally round their sole legitimate leadership, the MPLA, we realise, at the same time, that imperialism will not give up its designs willingly. We need to mobilise support for MPLA in its just struggle for full sovereignty and for ousting the racist interventionist forces. The imperialist powers and the multinational companies must be forced to lift all economic blockade imposed on Angola.

The war of aggression waged by South Africa at the instigation of imperialism must be brought to a halt.

World public opinion must be channelled against South Africa's aggression and against the American maneuvers aimed at creating disturbances in Angola and controlling its natural

resources. All these aggressive forces must be compelled to withdraw immediately from Angola.

All the progressive forces that support the peoples movement in the struggle for real independence must increase their solidarity with the legitimate government of Angola and the MPLA which has led the people's struggle for liberation and which is now steering the country towards real independence.

We call on all governments which have not yet recognized the People's Republic of Angola not to join the imperialist blockade but to recognize immediately this Republic as the sole legitimate representative of the Angolan people and the living embodiment of its struggle for national liberation so that this Republic may occupy its legitimate position in the O.A.U. and the United Nations Organization.

We call on all progressive forces to increase their material aid and their political, diplomatic and economic support for the People's Republic of Angola in order to enable the militant people of Angola to repel imperialist aggression, embark on reconstructing their country and help the people of Angola to return to their homes which were under the military occupation of the imperialist and racist forces.

We strongly condemn and urgently call for the immediate stop of the recruitment and dispatching of mercenaries to Angola by imperialist countries.

Our major duty is to declare our all out support for the People's Republic of Angola until peace and calm are restored to Angola and the forces of reaction and imperialism are forced to cease shedding the blood of the citizens of Angola.

The cause of Angola is the cause of Africa at large, it is indeed the cause of the whole of progressive humanity which could and should promptly exert its decisive influence to end this ruthless aggression.

The participants record with appreciation the support extended

by the socialist countries, notably, the Soviet Union and Cuba, to the Angolan people in its struggle in defence of its newborn Republic. This support came in confirmation of the role played by the socialist community, foremost of which is the Soviet Union. This is a reinforcement of the unity between the socialist countries, the forces of world national liberation movements and democratic forces in the capitalist world, which is in the process of changing the face of the world in favour of liberation, independence, democracy and social progress.

This participants express as well their support and consolidation of the new African Republics of Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Cape Verde, and Sao Tome and Principe. They appeal to all world progressive forces to support and help promote social and economic development in these countries. They hail the opportune results that crowned the struggle of the Seychelles Islands people which is achieving their independence on the 29 of June 1976.

The participants emphasize their condemnation of the racist regimes in South Africa and Zimbabwe considering these as a disgrace to the African continent. They declare their full support for liberation movements in this region, for the African National Congress of South Africa, and the African National Council of Zimbabwe, as well as calling for the escalation of the struggle in the forthcoming period to eliminate the disgrace of racial discrimination.

They condemn the continued illegal occupation of Namibia and declare their full support to the liberation forces struggling for their liberation under the leadership of SWAPO.

The Conference supports previous AAPSO resolutions concerning the Sahara and appeals to all concerned parties to settle the Sahara question by peaceful means so as to guarantee the rights of the Sahara people in a way that reinforces the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist and anti-reactionary forces in this

region.

The participants express their support to the struggle of the Omani people against imperialism and its agents in the zone as well as their support to the heroic struggle waged by the People Front for the liberation of Oman.

The participants assert their absolute support for the struggle of the Palestinian people and the other Arab peoples for the liberation of the Arab territories, the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the Middle East and the recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people notably, its right to return and self-determination on its homeland as well as the establishment of its national independent state on any liberated part of its homeland.

The participants support the United Nations' resolution condemning Zionism as a racist theory and movement and call for the exposure of its racist objectives and its imperialist links.

In this respect, the participants denounce the United States use of the veto following the debate on the Palestinian issue at the Security Council. They see in this veto a confirmation of American imperialism as well as a support and encouragement of the Israeli aggression.

The participants view with concern the development of the situation in Lebanon as posing a big challenge to the Arab national liberation movement. They regard these incidents as part of the imperialist plot designed to undermine the Palestinian resistance and to create favourable conditions for Israel to break from its isolation while providing it with possibilities and new opportunities to continue its aggression on the Arab countries. It also provides a larger sphere for Arab reaction backed by imperialists to tighten their grip on the area and paralyse the Arab liberation movement. They stressed the urgent need for maintaining peace and stability in the area and for reaching a formula ensuring for Lebanon a guarantee of its territorial unity

and the continuation of its role for Arab unity.

The participants feel great concern over the continued occupation and aggression on Cyprus by imperialist forces. They urge the immediate implementation of relevant U.N. resolutions as well as for adopting practical measures to bring pressure to bear on Turkey for the implementation of these resolutions. They also condemn the proclamation of the so-called Federal Turkish State, and support solution securing the establishment of an independent unified demilitarized and non-aligned Cyprus maintaining its security and the unity of its territory.

In Asia, the participants hail the astounding victories scored by the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. These victories have completely altered the map of the region and have a decisive impact on the balance of world forces. They commend the emergence of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos, the new democratic constitution of the Cambodian government and the unification process now underway between the two zones of Vietnam.

These victories led to the creation of a new situation in Asia in favour of the policy of peace and non-alignment as well as for collective security. Hence, the development of the mass movements in Japan against the military bases and the demand for declaring the Indian Ocean zone of peace and for the dismantling of the existing imperialist bases, specially the U.S. base on Diego Garcia. This demand is winning the support from the majority of the countries in this area regardless of the nature of their social systems.

The participants strongly support the people of Timor, under the leadership of FRENTILIN in its struggle for national liberation and call for the immediate evacuation of the Indonesian troops from East Timor.

They declare their support for the Korean people in their struggle for the peaceful and independent reunification of their

country and put an end to the American military occupation in the South.

The participants affirm their full support for the valiant people of Chile in its hard struggle against the criminal fascist clique for the restoration of their democratic rule. We firmly support the international drive calling for the release of political detainees in Chile.

The affirm their total support of the peoples of Latin America, victims of dictatorial regimes and call for an intensification of solidarity towards them.

The participants express their full support for the people of Puerto Rico in its growing struggle against United States imperialism and for its national independence.

The participants salute the heroic struggle of the Spanish people against fascism and urge full support for the decisive struggle they are now waging.

The participants of this conference support the non-aligned conference scheduled to be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, this summer and call upon the governments and peoples of the non-aligned nations to redouble their efforts to make the conference a forum for anti-imperialist solidarity and action.

The participants in the Luanda Conference entrust the AAPSO Permanent Secretariat with the task of cooperating with progressive forces in the world to make of the Luanda Declaration a landmark for those countries which have recently won independence, as well as for the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Emergency International Conference In Solidarity With The People Of South Africa* 30th - 31st October 1976 Addis Ababa - Ethiopia

Declaration

The International Emergency Conference in Solidarity with the People of South Africa, organized by the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization and the Provisional Congress, in cooperation with the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia, which took place on October 30th â?" 31st, 1976, in Addis Ababa.

Extends its militant greetings to, and expresses its full solidarity with, the oppressed people of South Africa, who are courageously pursuing their struggle for the seizure of power.

The Black masses of South Africa are fighting and sacrificing their lives to put an end to the apartheid system which relegates them to the status of sub-humans and deprives them of the most elementary human rights. Imperialism transplanted colonialists to the country, thus creating a colonialist, racist regime, which subjects the overwhelming Black majority to extreme national oppression and concentrates the land and the wealth of the country in the hands of a small white oligarchy.

Since June 16 of this year, the world has witnessed with shock and disgust the horror of massacres and unspeakable atrocities perpetrated by the South African fascist regime against defenceless children and adults, pupils and workers.

* AAPSO Publications (No.84).

The root causes of the uprising which began in Soweto are to be found in the steadily deteriorating socio-economic conditions of the dispossessed Black majority. When the students challenged the imposition of the Afrikaan language as a medium of instruction, they were in fact challenging the imposition by the white minority on the Black majority against its expressed will, of the pass laws, slave wages, Bantustans, Bantu (inferior) education, landlessness, etc. It is estimated that by the end of 1976, over 2 million workers will be unemployed.

The continuing uprising, which has spread to every area in South Africa, is a clear expression of the rejection of the apartheid regime by the people. What the Vorster regime chooses to call Â«riotsÂ» are in fact organized attacks on the institutions, which were to implement the apartheid policies. The very demands by demonstrators for Power to the People clearly demonstrate the political character of the upheaval.

The uprising is in itself a result of decades of political organization amongst workers, peasants, women, youth, students and professionals by the African National Congress and its allies making it possible for the people to become a concerted organized force able to withstand the ruthless machinery of the South African police state.

In its desperate attempts to stem the tide of revolt, the Vorster regime has resorted to killing, wounding, maiming for life and torturing in detention under its fascist draconian laws, thousands of school children, youth and adults.

Far from being intimidated by police brutality, the working masses of South Africa are undertaking successive strike actions to demonstrate solidarity with the students and to register their total rejection of the super-exploitative apartheid system.

The declaration of the so-called independent state of Transkei is a further effort to bypass the will of the South African people and perpetuate the apartheid system.

This Conference condemns the whole Bantustan policy, which is tantamount to creating sophisticated concentration camps, and calls upon all progressive forces of the world to ensure its total rejection.

We hail the rejection of recognition of the Transkei by the United Nations Organisation and strongly condemn the only abstention, that of the U.S.A.

In Southern Africa, the birth of the People's Republics of Mozambique and Angola with a resounding proclamation of People's Power has tolled the death knell of colonialism in that part of the world and ushered in the era of the total liquidation of imperialist domination of the African Continent. For the first time, the bulwark of racial domination, colonial oppression and imperialist exploitation - South Africa - together with her colonial dependency of Namibia and her satellite, Rhodesia, are confronted on their borders by states which are building social systems diametrically opposed to their basic policies.

These states, by their heroic deeds and achievements serve to inspire the oppressed and struggling people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa to unprecedented heights in their fight to seize power from the white minority oppressor regimes.

The forces of freedom, democracy and progress in Southern Africa are now on the offensive and continue to increase and strengthen their striking power.

International imperialism now sees an imminent loss of its stronghold in Africa and is resorting to a twofold strategy in an attempt to stem the tide of revolution now sweeping through Southern Africa.

On the one hand, the United States and her NATO allies are posing as friends of the oppressed people and putting forward proposals for a so-called peaceful solution of the problems of Zimbabwe and Namibia, whereas they supply with arms the racist regimes in complete defiance of the arms embargo. They

assiduously seek to portray fascist South Africa as being «reasonable» both in pressuring the illegal Smith regime to accept majority rule, as well as the fraudulent Bantustan policies in Namibia and South Africa itself. On the other hand, they continue to boost the apartheid regime with enormous supplies of armaments, capital and technology.

All these manoeuvres are calculated to safeguard the imperialist interests in Southern Africa at the expense of the oppressed Black majority. But the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe are not prepared to be fooled into accepting «peace plans» which condemn them to perpetual slavery. They demand power and are prepared to sacrifice their lives in order to achieve their goal. The present uprising by the people of South Africa is a clear demonstration of this uncompromising militancy.

This conference condemns the growing racist political economic and military alliance between South Africa and Israel. This unholy alliance stems from the fact that Zionism and racism are an identical ideology and an imperialist product. We are concerned that just as the Vorster regime becomes more capacious, zionist aggression endeavours to bring about neo-fascism in Lebanon, with the aim of suppressing the Palestinians' resistance and the Lebanese progressive forces, and partitioning the country. This aggressive racist axis, Pretoria and Tel-Aviv, bolstered by nuclear weapons, is a dangerous threat to world peace, to the countries and people of the Middle East and Africa, and in particular to the oppressed people of South Africa and Palestine.

With the encouragement and blessings of U.S. imperialism, racist South Africa is assiduously forging closer links with the military regimes in Chile, Argentine, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Brazil with the intention of forming an aggressive military bloc in the Atlantic Ocean. Any alliance between these countries and

racist South Africa can only serve the interests of the forces of reaction and imperialism. This goes against the aspirations of the people of Latin America and South Africa and has consequently been renounced by peace-loving peoples throughout the world.

This conference denounces the economic, political and military alliance between the imperialist world, in particular the United States of America, United Kingdom, France, Federal Republic of Germany and Japan, with the racist regime in South Africa. This growing collaboration, in defiance of the wishes of the national liberation movement in South Africa, the decisions of the UN, the non-aligned Heads of State Conferences; the OAU, AAPSO, other international organizations and world public opinion only serves to encourage and strengthen the Vorster regime. By their economic investments in South Africa (foreign investments now total approximately $ 11 billion) the imperialist powers and multinational corporations are directly responsible for the grave situation and criminal events in South Africa.

The present stage of supplying nuclear and other sophisticated weapons to the Vorster regime is now being complemented by a new strategy of making available highly sophisticated and nuclear technology in an effort to make the regime self-sufficient, so that it can suppress the mass-movement and the armed struggle.

The Conference notes with alarm the plans of international imperialism to integrate South Africa into the aggressive NATO military organization. We condemn the growing relations of South Africa with the repressive regimes of Pak of South Korea, the Shah of Iran and others.

We endorse the world-wide demand to maintain the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

All multinational companies and other economic interests operating in South Africa are directly participating and benefiting from the super-exploitation of the Black South African labour force and are therefore accomplices in the crime of apartheid.

This conference therefore declares that the people of South Africa under the leadership of the ANC and its allies, supported by the international community are perfectly justified in taking any appropriate actions against these rapacious and exploitative economic institutions and interests.

The oppressed people of South Africa, through their genuine national liberation movement, must receive the fullest support for all forms of struggle, including the armed struggle, from the international community in their effort to defeat the forces of reaction, imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and fascism.

This conference notes with great satisfaction the invaluable political, material and moral support given to the ANC and its allies by the Socialist countries especially the Soviet Union, the Afro-Asian and Non-Aligned countries and the progressive forces in the advanced capitalist countries.

This conference declares that the front-line countries in Africa which support the objectives of the ANC should receive the fullest international support against racist and imperialist aggression.

The whole world, through various international and national platforms, has condemned apartheid as a crime against humanity. It is now high time that this condemnation should be backed by further concrete actions. This world can no longer entertain the slightest defence or apology for the apartheid monstrosity.

We demand the immediate transfer of power to SWAPO, the legitimate representative of the Namibian people and urge the rendering of all political and material assistance to this authentic liberation movement.

We reject the Kissinger machinations, undertaken on behalf of world imperialism, and his plan of a negotiated settlement, which is diametrically opposed to the revolutionary forces of Zimbabwe, led by the African National Council. The Conference calls upon the progressive and peace-loving forces of the world and

international organizations to increase their moral and material support to the ANC of Zimbabwe.

The Conference appreciates the difficulties that the African front-line countries are experiencing, because of their proximity to the apartheid regimes, hails the struggle of their peoples to render effective support to the struggle of the people of South Africa and condemns the machinations of South Africa in trying to impose regimes unwanted by the people.

This conference, meeting in revolutionary Ethiopia calls upon all Governments, international and national Organizations to intensify all-around support at this crucial stage when the courageous oppressed people of South Africa have irrefutably demonstrated their abhorence and rejection of the hated system of apartheid.

This conference expresses its full support for the anti-colonial and anti-racist struggle led by the African National Congress which aims at the total destruction of the present oppressive and exploitative apartheid regime and its replacement by a democratic system of government in which all the people of South Africa irrespective of race, sex or creed will enjoy equal rights and opportunities and build a new, just and progressive society.

The conference calls upon the world progressive forces to render every effective support to the just struggle of the South African People.

AMANDLA NGANETHU

The Emergency International Conference In Solidarity with The People of Cyprus* 10th-11th December 1976 Athens - Greece

Resolution on Cyprus

The AAPSO Emergency International Conference in Solidarity with the struggle of the people of Cyprus held in Athens on the 10th and11th December,1976:

1- **Notes with anxiety** that the problem of Cyprus remains unsolved, with obvious risks to the peace of the region and the world.

2- **The Conference reconfirms** the view that Cyprus issue is not a feud between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots but stems from the designs of the U.S. post-colonialist, imperialist forces and their proxies to bring Cyprus under their strategic sphere of influence.

3- **Notes that the people** of Cyprus fight for the right of all people to live free from hegemony and oppression. Their struggle is an integral part of the anti-imperialist struggle of all the people of the world.

4- **The Conference views** with the great concern Turkey's continuing defiance in complying with the U.N. resolutions on Cyprus.

5- **It further notes** that two and a half years after the aggression, Turkey:

a) Holds under occupation 40 per cent of the territory of the

* AAPSO Publications (No.87).

Cyprus Republic.

b) Not only continues to refuse to allow the return of the 200,000 refugees, who were ousted from their homes, but through terror and intimidation expels the remaining Greek Cypriots from their homes in spite of the agreement reached in the presence of the Secretary General of the U.N.

c) Refuses to provide any information regarding the fate or whereabouts of 2,000 missing persons, a number of whom were proved to be alive weeks after the cessation of hostilities in 1974.

d) Has imported settler-colonisers from mainland Turkey in an effort to change the demographic structure of the island.

e) Tries to expand occupation into territory cultivated by their lawful owners until recently.

f) Continuously threatens to take unilateral action in order to create further faits accomplis against the independence of Cyprus.

g) Poses a real threat to the very existence of the unitary state of Cyprus.

6- The UN General Assembly in its last session demanded the implementation of the UN resolutions (i.e. the withdrawal of foreign troops, the return of the refugees to their homes in conditions of safety, the cessation of all unilateral actions and efforts to change the demographic structure of the island, respect for the independence, territorial integrity, sovereignty and non-aligned policy of Cyprus) and expressed the wish that the Security Council take appropriate measures for the implementation of the UN resolutions.

7- The refusal of Turkey to make any concrete proposals renders the dialogue initiated by the UN impotent. Without foreign intervention we are confident that the two communities will reach a just solution of the problem.

8- The Conference condemns any effort to take the issue away from the UN platform and entangle it within the NATO circles which act for the promotion of their strategic interests in the region

and try to turn the independent state of Cyprus into a subordinate base against the national liberation and progressive forces of the region.

9- AAPSO has consistently supported the struggle of the people of Cyprus against aggression and occupation, for an independent, unitary, demilitarised Cyprus for all its citizens, independent of religion or ethnic origin. We repeat the position of the AAPSO presidium that the responsibility of the continuing tragedy in Cyprus lies with the imperialist forces and their proxies who are opposing the effective implementation of the UN decisions and reconfirm the support for the right of the people to settle their affairs without foreign intervention.

10- The Conference supports the struggle of the people of Cyprus for the elimination of the foreign bases and the foreign monitoring stations and radar installations in the island.

11- The Conference warns against the self-appointed mediators who are attempting to deinternationalise the issue and project plans which in reality tend to legalise the occupation and consolidate the foreign interests in Cyprus.

12- The participants declare that the threat against Cyprus endangers the peace in the region and puts in jeopardy the security of all nations that aspire to real independence. It is an aggression against the Helsinki declaration which tries to create an European code of behavior based on non-intervention and non-violation of forntiers.

13- Expresses its concern for the plight of the Turkish Cypriot community under the occupation regime and hails its mounting resistance, which creates the prospects for a common anti-imperialist, anti-occupation front.

14- Notes with satisfaction the growing international solidarity, especially of the socialist and progressive non-aligned countries.

PLAN OF ACTION

To achieve practical solidarity with Cyprus, the Conference

decides to:

1- **Ask** all member organizations to create national committees of solidarity with Cyprus.

2- **Cooperate with** all organizations and committees engaged in solidarity to Cyprus especially with the International Solidarity Committee for Cyprus.

3- **Instruct** all national committees and affiliated organizations to undertake a wide campaign for mobilization for their respective public opinion in solidarity with Cyprus and for the implementation of the UN resolutions.

4- **Address** an appeal to all Heads of State for the adoption of practical measures to put pressures on Turkey for the implementation of the UN resolutions.

5- **To organize** a boycott of all products originating from the occupied regions and of ships sailing from the occupied harbours.

6- **Dispatch** all of its resolutions to the Secretary General of the UN.

7- **Send a cable** to the Security Council urging the addoption of practical measures for the implementation of the UN resolutions.

8- **Send a cable** to the UN to demand the cessation of the ousting of the enclaved people from the occupied areas.

9- **Address** an appeal to the UN Human Rights Committee and other bodies dealing with Human Rights to demand information from Turkey in regard to the fate of missing persons.

10- **Draw** the attention of the UN to the dangers emanating from the efforts to expand occupation and ask the UN to put an immediate end to this policy.

11- **Ask** all Governments to adopt an arms embargo against Turkey.

12- **To facilitate** for Cyprus to secure all possible economic assistance free from imperialist strings.

13- **To ask** the Trade Unions and Progressive Movement within Turkey to step up activities in support of the struggle of Cyprus

and for the implementation of UN resolutions.

14- **To mobilize** the International Trade Unions to get into action for the implementation of UN resolutions.

15- **To ask** Members of Parliaments to personally approach the UN for measures for the implementation of UN resolutions.

16- **Support** the proposal for the convening of an international conference under the auspices of the UN to include the permanent members of the Security Council, non-aligned and other countries of the region.

17- **Publish** all the documents of the Conference in four languages: Greek, Arabic, English and French, and undertake its wide distribution.

18- **Mandate** the AAPSO Secretariat to take all the necessary measures for the implementation of the plan of action.

The Emergency International Conference Of The Palestinian People And the Lebanese National Forces*
12th – 13th December 1976
Athens – Greece

General Declaration

Faced with the critical situation in Lebanon, the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) held an Extraordinary International Solidarity Conference in Athens, capital of the Republic of Greece on December 12th and 13th in support of the struggle of the Palestinian people and Lebanese National Movement.

180 delegates came from 68 Afro-Asian Solidarity Committees, political parties and national, regional and internation organizations from many parts of the world, representing a wide sector of public opinion.

Throughout its sittings and discussions the Conference made an objective study of the current situation and dangers resulting from the imperialist reactionary Zionist plot against the Palestinian people. The Conference has expressed its deep appreciation to the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organization and the Permanent Secretariat of the Popular Arab Conference for taking the initiative to organize the Conference at this decisive moment.

The Conference reaffirms all the positions of AAPSO in support of the Palestinian resistance and the national Lebanese movement and reaffirms all the previous resolutions of AAPSO on all levels and at all times in regard with the Palestinian cause and

* AAPSO Publications (No.88).

Lebanese issue.

The Conference unanimously stresses that the Palestinian people are in need, more than any other time in the past, of the utmost solidarity and support in its struggle for the preservation of its very existence, the recognition of its national and legimate rights to return to its country, its self-determination and the establishment of an independent national state on any part it can liberate.

The Conference has decided unanimously that imperialism and Zionism have both used the State of Israel in the heart of the Arab World to serve as an imperialist and hostile base serving the aspirations of imperialism in Asia and Africa. As a result, the whole people of Palestine, have been confronted by operations of terrorism suffering and continuous attempts at destroying its national identity and denial of its national existence.

It expresses its deep appreciation of the staunch struggle waged by the Palestinians against the Zionist invaders, supported by the potential of imperialism which has provided this Zionist racist regime with all the means of aggression in all sectors, whether economic, political, military as well as in manpower.

The Conference expressed the view that the reactionary and imperialist forces have always tried to prevent the Palestinian people to realize its national aspirations, realizing that this will necessarily lead to the strengthening of the Arab liberation movement, and to the weakening of the imperialist influence in the region.

The Conference considers the Palestinian Revolution as an important part of the Arab national liberation movement and a factor for Arab unity and social progress. It is an integral part of the liberation movement in the Eastern Mediterranean region. It is for this reason, that the Palestinian revolution is the target of imperialist and Zionist aggressions.

The Conference realizes that the Arab Liberation Movement

forms a major part of the world liberation movement. It reasserts that the essence of the Middle East conflict is the struggle waged by the Arab liberation movement and its various contingents against the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. The core of this conflict is the occupation of Palestine by Zionist forces which is supported by imperialism; the dispersion of its people and denial of its legitimate national rights on its own soil; the occupation of other Arab territories in Golan and Sinai during the 1967 war as well as the occupation of the conflict imposed by imperialism in this region.

The Conference asserts that the bloody events in Lebanon, arise from the reactionary imperialist Zionist plan which is being executed by American imperialism, aiming at the continuance of the Zionist invasion of Palestine and the rest of the occupied territories as well as the continuance of the hostile Zionist role. It also aims at the continuation of its domination over the wealth resources of the Arab countries and to destroy the progressive achievement of Arab liberation.

After failing during the past years to destroy the centres of the Palestinian liberation movement in Lebanon, wide-scale actions of bloody terrorism in 1975 were put into operation, with the support of finance and weapons from American imperialism, Israel and Arab local reaction.

The Conference asserts that this conflict, provoked by the reactionary isolationist forces in Lebanon, is not a communal conflict between Christians and Moslems in Lebanon. Neither was it a conflict between Palestinian and Lebanese, but a reactionary imperialistic Zionist plot.

The Conference records that after the ceasefire in Lebanon, after the Arab Summit Conference in Cairo, the coordination and cooperation between the reactionary right-wing forces in collusion with imperialism and the Zionist enemy still try to provoke a new explosion of the situation. through repeated aggressions on the

positions of the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese National Movement.

The main objective of all national and liberation forces in the Arab world, in the coming stage is to provide the necessary guarantees to safeguard the Palestinian Revolution, assist it, enable it to act freely from all the Arab territories surrounding Israel and not to intervence in its internal affairs. It should also step up the necessary conditions for safeguarding the freedom of Lebanon, its sovereignty, its unity, its reconstruction and the establishment of democratic measures in it and the convening of a round table discussion for the Lebanese parties in order that they should solve their problems by themselves by enforcing the ceasefire and creating an independent, unified and democratic Lebanon committed to its Arab entity away from communal politics and reactions. To provide the means to strengthen the struggle against Zionist colonialism in order to liberate the Arab occupied territories since the 1967 hostilities and to assist the Palestinian people to recover all their usurped rights.

The Conference warns that the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction have temporarily succeeded in splitting the ranks of the Arab liberation movement as a result of the involvement of some Arab regimes in the grave events in Lebanon, in a way that seriously impaired the Lebanese National Movement and the Palestinian Revolution. The same forces are still awaiting the opportunity and using various scheming methods, at the time when the aggressive Zionist expansionism in Southern Lebanon is associated with the criminal attempts at liquidating the activities of the Palestinian guerrilla in this region. It also warns against the dangerous situation prevailing in the South of Lebanon and against the mounting Israeli military isolationist operations along the borders of occupied Palestine, of the attempts by the isolationists, with the assistance and protection of Israel, to occupy a growing number of southern provinces after the

proclaimed cease-fire in the other Lebanese regions. The Conference records that the isolated region along the southern frontiers, under Israeli authority in order to strike at the Palestinians and to obstruct the implementation of the Cairo Agreement, which had set regulations concerning the relationship between the Lebanese government and the Palestinian resistance, according it a right of existence in southern Lebanon. It is thus paving the way for internationalizing the Lebanese issue in order to detach Lebanon from The Arab homeland, and establish open frontiers between it and Israel.

The Conference extends its support to the programme of political and democratic solution of the Lebanese crisis which is proposed by the Lebanese National Movement, based on the respect of the sovereignty of the people of Lebanon on their territory and its right to express its will in complete freedom, the prevention of any kind of tutelage and interference in internal affairs, and its right to establish a contemporary secular regime, asserting the commitment of Lebanon as a member of the Arab nation.

The Conference deems the one of the first duties of the Arab Security Forces, is the preservation of the unity and integrity of the Lebanese territory and the confrontation of the Israeli movements in the South of Lebanon, the restoration of the refugees to their areas in the Palestinian camps which were occupied by the isolationist forces through violence and terror, and to guarantee the right of the Arab Resistance to its political and military presence in Lebanon, in accordance with the Cairo Agreement of 1969, and not to be involved in a confrontation with the Lebanese National Movement, as well as the respect of the democratic freedoms in Lebanon, in a manner to help achieve a democratic solution of the Lebanese issue without any foreign interference.

The Conference supports the aspirations of the Lebanese ports all efforts aiming at creating the appropriate conditions for the

withdrawal of all foreign troops as soon as possible, from Lebanon.

The Conference asserts that the Palestinian Liberation Orgainzation is the legitimate and only representative of the Palestinian people and its right to take decisions in its own homeland, whether its people are inside the occupied territories or outside it, in all sectors of representation. The Conference hails the wide-scale recognition with which the organization was met internationally.

In so far as it concerns the action on the international level any conference for peace in the Middle East must be convened on the basis of serving the objectives of the Arab struggle for the unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories, and of securing the national rights of the Palestinian people, and its right to return to its homeland, and on the participation of the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine and a major independent party with rights equal to the others.

The Conference asserts the right of the palestinian people to return to its homeland, its self-determination, and its establishment of a national, independent Palestinian state or any part it liberates.

The Conference demands that the safety and freedom of the Palestinian Revolution and its continuing presence in Lebanon or any other Arab State should be guaranteed, as well as, the opening up of all directions in front of the Palestinian Resistance to struggle for the return of all its usurped rights.

The Conference hails the United Nations resolutions which considers Zionism as a form of racialism and condemns the racialist practices used by the forces of Zionist occupation against the Arab patriots in Palestine and the Arab occupied territories.

The Conference demands the release of Palestinian political prisoners detained in the occupied land, to put an end to their torture, to put an end to the destruction of Palestinian homes and

occupation of their land and to put an end to the modifications of the demographic structure of Palestine and the other places.

The Conference calls for the immediate release of all Palestinian and Lebanese political prisoners arrested, till now, as a consequence of the events in Lebanon.

The Conference calls upon all the forces of liberation and democracy, upon peace and justice forces the world over, to offer all kinds of material and moral support to both the peoples and Palestine and Lebanon, to consolidate their staunch resistance and to enable them to continue their struggle in order that all the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary schemes should be foiled.

The Conference hails the consolidation and expansion of the Palestinian alliance with all the national progressive forces in all the Arab countries.

The Conference calls for the implementation of all the United Nations' Resolutions ensuring the rights of the Palestinian people and mainly, Resolution 3236 of the United Nations General Assembly in 1974 which asserts the rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and establish their sovereignty on their soil, as well as the other resolutions which assert the right of the PLO to represent the Palestinian people.

The Conference hails the upsurge of the Arab nation, its armed forces and its people during the 1973 October War. It hails its martyrs fallen on the battlefield fighting for its rights: this upsurge which has destroyed the myth of racial Zionist superiority and proved the ability of the Arab people to wage the modern liberation war capably and valiantly.

All the Organizations and personalities participating in this Conference assert their firm determination to continue to act jointly in order to realize the victory of the Palestinian Resistance and the national Lebanese movement. It also unanimously hails with pride and appreciation the valiant struggle waged by the people of Lebanon under the leadership of its national progressive

movement. It also hails the sacrifices endured by the people of Lebanon fighting for the right of the Palestinian people in their struggle to obtain their legitimate objectives.

The Conference equally hails the struggle of the people of Palestine against Zionist terrorism and praises the growing armed struggle and the valiant resistance of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and calls for its assistance and the assistance of all forms of struggle waged by the Palestinian people.

The Conference declares that it is Clear that no just peace will be achieved in the Middle East unless there is a complete withdrawal from all the Arab occupied territories, following the Zionist aggression, and the recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people, as the Palestinian issue is the core of the conflict in that explosive part of the world.

The Conference pays tribute to the struggle of the Arab national and progressive forces for the mobilization of all the potentials of the Arab nation and the consolidation of the Arab solidarity against imperialism, conlonialism and Zionism in order to liberate all the occupied territories and the establishment of the rights of the Palestinian people.

In addition to the Palestinian problem and the explosive situation in Lebanon, the Conference takes into consideration the importance of the Gulf area in view of its deep involvement in the cause of peace and security in the region.

The Conference denounces the open conspiracy exercised by Arab reaction in complete coordination with Iran and imperialist schemes with a view to continue its reactionary imperialistic military domination of this strategic region and on its immense wealth in oil.

The Conference warns against the conspiracies which confront of forces of liberation in the Gulf region and condemns the methods of terrorism, torture and exile to which honest patriots are subjected as well as the national and progressive movements in

the region.

The Conference calls for solidarity with the Arab forces of liberation particularly the Polular Front for the liberation of Oman against a foreign Iranian presence in this region and against monopolies and reactionary regimes inherited from colonial domination, and against the establishment of an aggressive military alliance under the guise of the Gulf Security Project, as well as the attempts at creating an aggressive oil bloc formed by the oil producing countries, accomplices of the imperialist states to oppose other oil producing states.

The Conference appeals to all the forces of liberation and progress in the world to denounce the schemes of the reactionary and imperialist forces and extend their solidarity to the movements of liberation by offering it all moral and material support.

The Conference calls for solidarity with the struggle of the forces of Arab liberation to foil these conspiracies and to put an end to the repeated Iranian aggressions against the progressive regime of the Democratic Republic of Yemen and the progressive forces in the region, especially the struggle of the Omani people, under the leadership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman, against the military presence in Oman.

The Conference asserts that the unity of the Arab progressive forces is a fundamental and decisive factor for confronting the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary schemes, and for further proceeding on the path of liberation, progress and democracy.

Hence, the Conference pays tribute to the efforts exerted for mobilizing and unifying these forces in a wide front, on the basis of a progressive militant and anti-imperialist programme, and for consolidating the alliance with all the forces of liberation and progress in different regions of the world, particularly in the Socialist countries, foremost among which are the Soviet Union and the Afro-Asian countries as well as the world democratic organizations.

International Conference In Solidarity With The National Liberation Movement And Masses Of The Gulf Region Against Imperialism*
28th - 30th October, 1980
Nicosia - Cyprus
The Final Communique

The International Conference in Solidarity with the National Liberation Movement and Masses of the Gulf Region against Imperialism, held on 28 - 30 October in Nicosia, Cyprus.

Co-sponsored by three regional and international organizations: the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, the International Secretariat for Solidarity with the Arab people and their Central Cause â?“ Palestine and the Permanent Secretariat of the Pan-Arab People's Congress and attended by representatives of the democratic and progressive popular forces from different parts of the world, who discussed the following items of the Agenda:

1. The current situation in the Gulf region from the political, economic and security aspects.
2. The military bases and pacts in the Gulf region and their threat to freedom, independence and sovereignty of the countries of the region as well as to World Peace and Security.
3. Means of expressing solidarity and extending support to the Gulf Peoples as well as consolidating their struggle politically, materially and information-wise.

* Having seriously considered the current developments in the region of the Gulf and Arab Peninsula, the Conference is aware that what is going on in this region cannot be separated from the

* AAPSO Publications (No.110).

main link of imperialist machination in the entire Arab region and, especially, in the Middle East specifically after the conclusion of the Camp David Accords and the Israeli-Egyptian treaty that have created new conditions that pave the way for imperialism and its proxies to:

- Restore domination over the Arab region, and continue looting its riches and exploiting its resources;
- Revitalize the Arab reaction and make it possible for it to play again its role in subordinating the Arab policy to serve the interests of imperialism, consolidation of its influence and to use it as a spearhead against the forces of revolution and progress;
- Perpetuate the state of the Zionist entity, "Israeli", doubly arming it to jeopardize Syria, encourage it to carry on its hostilities and expansion and to co-ordinate with the local isolationist forces to strike the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese National Movement.

In keeping with the foregoing, imperialism led by the USA seeks to contain or strike at Arab patriotic and progressive forces and regimes by stirring domestic disturbances such as racism and sectarian feuds in some countries, and border problems in other countries.

In this context, the Conference senses the danger of what is going on in the Arab Peninsula and the Gulf through the following:

- Acquisition of military facilities and establishment of aggressive bases by US imperialism in Kenya, Somalia, Egypt, Oman, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia to tighten the noose of domination over oil sources and its transportation lines in the Peninsula and the Gulf.
- The creation of the Rapid Deployment Force whose number increased from 110 thousand to 200 thousand soldiers, equipped with the most up to date weapons, and prepared to confront the growing revolutionary forces, after imperialism had lost confidence in the ability of its local agents to perform this role. All of which

emphasizes the imperialist intentions to dominate the region, interfere in its affairs and control its territorial waters.

- The military movements of the USA in the Indian Ocean, and the development of the Diego Garcia base into a nuclear base, threatening to use nuclear weapons against patriotic and progressive regimes as well as the peace and freedom-loving masses.

- Co-ordination of security among reactionary regimes of the Gulf and the Arab Peninsula, led by Saudi Arabia, and under the supervision of the C.I.A. The first signs of this co-operation appeared in the mounting suppression of democratic freedoms, and the enactment of laws running counter to human rights and man's dignity. Thousands of militants were thrust in prison, tortured and killed â?" and vengeance wreaked on their families, who were hunted down and their homes demolished.

- The Conference stresses that the current imperialist military provocations in the Gulf region and Arab Peninsula are inseparable part of the imperialist strategy of striking at the national liberation movements in the world, jeopardizing world peace and security and stepping up arms race.

The war between Iraq and Iran particularly in this crucial stage following the Camp David Accords and their consequences only play into the hands of the US imperialism, Zionism and reaction and serves their goals. This also deprives the Arab people in general and the Palestinian people in particular of a new revolutionary force in the region - the Iranian Revolution - which carried Iran from the camp of the enemies to the camp of friends. Furthermore, this deprives them of Iraq's strength and tremendous potential which are currently employed in a war destructive for both countries and economies.

Consequently, the Conference calls for an immediate end to this war in order to prevent the US from continuing its exploitation in favour of her aggressive goals and calls for the settlement of all

disputes between the two neighbouring countries by peaceful means and through respect for the rights of both parties.

In this context the Conference warns against the utilization by US imperialism of its intensified military presence in the region for attaining its aggressive targets and complotting with the reactionary regimes against the progressive regime of Democratic Yemen, for the liquidation of the Omani revolution and striking at the national liberation movement in the Gulf and Arab Peninsula.

Whereupon the Conference strongly condemns:

- The American policy and its aggressive schemes against the Peninsula and the Gulf region.
- The acceptance by both the Sultanate of Oman and Somalia to set up American bases on their territory, and the facilities given by Egypt to be used against the peoples of the region on the pretext of so-called protection of any Arab or Islamic state or on the pretext of releasing the American hostages.
- The Saudi reaction and other reactionary Arab forces for their continuous collusion with American imperialism against the Arab national interests, and, particularly the presence of the American AWACS radar planes and their crews in Saudi Arabia, thus strengthening the direct military presence of American imperialism in the region.
- The huge naval manoeuvers currently conducted in the Sea of Oman at the initiative of the US together with its western allies, Britain and France, and consider such manoeuvres as major contribution to the intensification of tension in the region and a grave provocation of its people.
- The Conference expresses its strong regret as regards the return of Greece to the military wing of NATO, and the current negotiations aiming at the establishment of US military bases in Greece, and warns against their repercussions on world peace and security.
- The Conference calls upon the public opinion and

democratic, progressive forces, the international organizations and the governments to condemn and expose the policy of the USA and reject its arguments for staying in the region, for its direct military intervention and the acquisition of military bases, because they pose a threat to the sovereignty and national independence of the countries of the region and constitute a grave violation of the security and stability of all the peoples of Asia, Africa and the world at large.

- The Conference reaffirms that the riches of the Gulf and Arab Peninsula constitute a vital interest for the peoples of the region and their wellbeing and that oil should be used as an effective weapon to support the Arab nation and its central cause, Palestine, and the causes of the oppressed peoples in the world.

- The Conference urges the countries of the Gulf and Arab Peninsula to withdraw their funds from the western banks which are investing them so that their yields and profits are transformed into economic and military aids to the Arab nation's enemies with Israel in the forefront.

- The Conference urges these countries to liquidate the foreign monopolies and transnationals and to channel their surplus funds into investments in the Arab countries as well as in the African and Asian and Third World countries which are in dire need for them to alleviate the sufferings of their peoples, and considers imperialism as a major obstacle to co-operation between the oil-producing countries on one hand and the developing countries on the other, for maintaining its domination over the economies of both sides;

- The Conference declares its support for the struggle of the masses of the region under the leadership of their national and progressive forces against the imperialist and reactionary forces, for full independence and democracy, for the release of the detainees, political and trade-unionist prisoners and for repatriation of the exiles and displaced of North Yemen, Oman,

Bahrain and Saudi Arabia; it particularly hails the armed struggle launched by the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman, for toppling the puppet reactionary regime;

- The Conference stresses the need for mobilizing the broad masses to play the major role in the struggle against imperialism and reaction and for ensuring the political and trade-union freedoms so that these masses can face the dangers threatening the region.
- The Conference also calls for launching a world wide campaign and stepping up the struggle for the abrogation of laws inconsistent with human rights and dignity and for an end to the military oppressive actions resulting in demolishing houses and terrorizing the innocents;
- The Conference condemns politically-motivated kidnapping, physical liquidation and assassination acts directed against the national and progressive forces in the Gulf, Saudi Arabia and North Yemen; it also condemns the kidnapping of the freedom fighter Nasser Es-Saed by the Saudi authorities demanding that his whereabouts be declared and that he be released;
- The Conference highly evaluates the Arab masses' ceaseless struggle expressed by the parties to the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front (Algeria, Syria, Democratic Yemen, Jamahiriya and PLO) and the Pan-Arab People's Congress against the imperialist-zionist reactionary plots;
- It also supports the struggle of the people in the Western Sahara led by the POLISARIO which confronts reactionary forces in Morocco.
- The Conference calls for intensifying the effective efforts conducive to strengthening the Arab struggle, and, in this connection, hails the unitary step made by Syria and the Jamahiriya as an answer to the imperialist attack on the region:
- It also considers the Friendship and Co-operation agreement between Syria and the Soviet Union and important step for the

promotion of the struggle of Arab liberation movement to confront the designs of imperialism, Zionism and reaction in the region and promotes the joint struggle of the masses of the Arab nation and the forces of progress, liberation and socialism in the world against these forces hostile to the aspirations of peoples and their right to live in freedom and in peace.

- The Conference considers that the Saudi act of severing its relations with Jamahiriya which warned the kings and princes of the Peninsula and the Gulf against the US imperialism military presence is but an evidence of the absolute submission of this regime to imperialism against the interests of its masses.
- The Conference hails the role played by the revolutionary and democratic forces of the world especially of those of the socialist community in the forefront of which is the Soviet Union, for supporting the struggles of the peoples of the Arab nation, and stresses the importance of the coherence of the revolutionary forces struggling against imperialism, Zionism, racism, colonialism and reaction, for economic co-operation, and calls for solidarity and mutual support among all the peoples of the region, the forces of liberation, progress, socialist and peace to confront and abort the aggressive policy of imperialism led by the USA, its allies and proxies.

International Emergency Meeting Of Solidarity With The Militant People Of South Africa*
11th-13th October 1985
Addis Ababa - Ethiopia

Declaration

The Emergency International Meeting in Solidarity with the People of South Africa, organized by the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization in co-operation with the African National Congress and the Ethiopian Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Committee, convened In Addis Ababa, Socialist Ethiopia, from 11-13 October 1985.

Having listened to the inspiring keynote address by Comrade Mengistu Haile-Mariam, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Worker's Party of Ethiopia, Chairman of the PMAC and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Socialist Ethiopia, and the moving speech by Comrade Oliver Tambo, President of the African National Congress, in which both highlighted the qualitatively new level the struggle in South Africa has reached.

Alarmed by the intensity of the atrocities and indiscriminate massacre perpetrated by the police and armed forces of the fascist regime against defenceless men, women and children.

Noting with satisfaction that, despite the reign of terror unleashed by the racist regime, the heroic people of South Africa under the banner of the African National Congress have intensified their valiant struggle in defence of their human dignity

* AAPSO Publications (No.131).

and national independence,

Salutes the heroism and resolve of the youth, women and workers of South Africa as well as concerted actions of the trade union, religious communities, women's groups and other mass organizations all of whom have rallied under the umbrella of the United Democratic Front in the struggle against the regime,

Inspired by Nelson Mandela whose indemitable will and unyielding courage have not dwarfed his goalers but have also made him a symbol to all who cherish and fight for a free and non-racial democratic South Africa,

Urges the international community to redouble efforts to secure the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners in South Africa,

Strongly condemns the campaign of terror by the racist regime against innocent and unarmed people and also the death squads constituted to carry out a campaign of assassination against militants of the struggle,

Strongly denounces the imposition of the state of emergency and calls for its immediate repeal and the unconditional release of all detainees,

Rejects the fabricated charges of treason against the leaders and activities of the United Democratic Front, including such courageous personalities like Mrs. Albertina Sisulu, and demands that the charges against them be dropped and the patriots be unconditionally released,

Whilst recognising that the pressure generated by the international community has induced some governments like Canada, New Zealand and the EEC to impose limited sanctions against racist Pretoria - these measures being merely symbolic - calls for total isolation of South Africa,

Denounces collaboration of Imperialist countries like Britain, the FRG, Canada with South Africa, and in particular US imperialism's bankrupt policy of "Constructive Engagement", which is

responsible for the arrogance and intransigence of the racist regime aggravating the suffering, human degradation and genocide of the oppressed people of South Africa,

Condemns the collaboration between Pretoria and Tel-Aviv directed against the peoples of Southern Africa as well as those of the Middle East and in particular the Palestinian People and calls for the implementation of the decision of the United Nations Conference on the Collaboration between South Africa and Israel held in Vienna in 1983,

Strongly condemns the growing collaboration between the racist regime of South Africa and the Mogadisho regime, co-operation between Pretoria, Chile and Paraguay, as well as all other such relationship which provide sustenance to the apartheid regime,

Calls upon the international community in general, anti-apartheid action groups, labour unions, solidarity committees and all other mass organizations in particular, to heighten their all out struggle for the imposition of mandatory comprehensive sanctions, including the oil embargo, against the apartheid regime in accordance with Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter,

Urges the international community to vigourously campaign for strict adherence to United National Security Council resolution on arms embargo against South Africa,

Condemns the continued illegal occupation of Namibia by the racist regime of South Africa and calls for the immediate and unconditional implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 (1978),

Further condemns the imposition of the so-called interim government in Namibia by the racist regime of South Africa,

Expresses its militant solidarity with and firm support for the just and heroic struggle of the Namibian people for national independence under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole and authentic representative.

Expresses also its unreserved support for and solidarity with the Front-Line States and Lesotho in their courageous resistance against incessant harrassment, destabilisation and naked aggression by South Africa and reactionary bandits as well as mercenaries in the payroll of Pretoria and international imperialism,

Strongly condemns the recent unprovoked aggression committed by the racist regime against the sovereign states of Botswana and Angola and fully supports the calls made for compensation for the destruction caused to human life and property,

Reaffirms its commitment to the implementation of the various relevant resolutions and decisions of the United nations on apartheid as well as the realisation of the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the Second United Nations Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Welcomes the convening this year in Nairobi of the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women and the NGO Forum 85 and fully supports the decisions adopted in solidarity with the struggling women in South Africa and Namibia,

Records its deep appreciation of the efforts of the Organization of African Unity aimed at bringing an end to the heinous system of apartheid including its last summit decision calling for a world conference on sanctions against apartheid,

Appreciates further the steadfast position and constant support by the Non-Aligned Movement towards the eradication of apartheid,

Commends the Front-Line States and Lesotho for their selfless support to the liberation struggle in South Africa and Namibia and urges the international community to extend the necessary assistance to enable them to withstand the onslaught directed against them by the racist regime,

Commends the Socialist Community of States in particular the

Soviet Union for the generous support and assistance rendered to the national liberation movements of Southern Africa,

Hails the growing material, moral ad political support extended by the Nordic countries, anti-apartheid Movements, trade unions, religious groups, women's organizations and others in Western countries and elsewhere towards attainment of liberation, peace and justice in Southern Africa,

Extends support to the decisions of the recent Consultative Conference of the ANC, held in Zambia to raise the struggle against apartheid to ever new heights.

Reaffirms the right of the Namibian and South African Peoples, led by SWAPO and NAC respectively, to wage the struggle for national liberation by all means, including armed struggle,

Calls on the international community in general and on all progressive forces, solidarity committees, peace movements, religious groups, trade-unions, women and youth organizations in particular, to increase their all round support and assistance to the struggling peoples of South Africa and Namibia and thus make 1986 declared by the UN as the Year of Peace, an Anti-Apartheid Year.

- The Struggle to Eradicate Apartheid is a Sacred Obligation and a Paramount Duty of One and All in Defence of Human Dignity and Freedom.

The Paris International Meeting (AFASPA – OSPPA) "With the People Of South Africa Ror The EliminatiOn Of The Racist Apartheid Regime"* 13th - 14th June, 1986 Paris – France Resolution

The Paris International Meeting organised on the 13th and 14th of June 1986 at the initiative of AFASPA (French Friendship and Solidarity with African Peoples Association) and OSPPA (Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization) entitled "With the People of South Africa for Freedom and the Elimination of the Racist Apartheid Regime" brought together delegates of solidarity committees, anti-apartheid movements, trade-union organizations and associations, coming from a great number of European, Asian and African countries.

The Meeting used as a support the works of the previous conferences that have analysed the consequences of the apartheid regime for the peoples of South Africa and Namibia. It reasserts the legitimacy of the armed struggle in order to abolish the apartheid regime.

The Meeting greets with deep concern the courgaeous and dignified struggle of the people of South Africa against the obnoxious apartheid regime, qualified by the United Nations as "Crime against Humanity". They consider that this struggle is the struggle of all the peoples of the world as it is attested by the ever growing extent of popular protest movements all over the world. For this reason, the governments which have subscribed to the

* AAPSO Publications (No.139).

Charter of the United Nations cannot escape their moral commitment any longer without challenging their responsibility to the people and to history. Consequently, the Meeting demands that all the governments which entertain commercial, military, cultural or sportive relations with South Africa follow the example of those who, in conformity with law and moral, already apply comprehensive mandatory sanctions, as defined by the Charter of the United Nations. Some of these measures which do not require lengthy implementation procedure can be applied without further delay.

It calls for penal sanctions against those who would violate the embargo to be provided for. The setting up of an observatory which would be under the authority of the United Nations would allow the check of information on commercial exchanges with South Africa.

The Meeting reminds that even quite recently some states have received or meant to receive rulers of the Pretoria racist regime. It stresses the fact that no justification of any kind can be admitted for such attitudes which lead to give a criminal system backing as well as the respectable image it needs to survive. In this regard the policy of the United States known as "constructive engagement" ploicy, as well as the use by three western countries of their veto right at the UNO, encourage the repressive policy of Pretoria.

The Paris International Meeting reasserts its belief that the comprehensive mandatory sanctions it wishfully calls for would considerably weaken the apartheid regime. They would provide support for the people's forces which fight in South Africa to abolish it, which thus would result in the final eradication of the most obnoxious system of racial discrimination that exists on our planet at the moment.

The Meeting vigourously protests against the campaigns of disinformation undertaken by the most reactionary forces

throughout the world, which present the apartheid regime as an amendable regime which could soften up, even show a positive evolution. The Meeting indignantly recalls that thousands of men, women and children have lost their lives, that hundreds of thousands of others have spent months or years in jail, just because they claim freedom for all, political equality and social justice. The aggressive nature of a regime which invades the territories of its neighbouring countries (Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Zimbabwe ...) regardless of the international law and which illegally occupies Namibia, quite obviously is a threat to international peace.

At a time when the peoples of the world, together with the people of South Africa, commemorate the anniversary of the Soweto killings, the Meeting solemnly addresses the United Nations World Conference on Sanctions and all the governments and urges them to overtly agree on the implementation of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa and to make them become effective without delay. There could be no juster sign of solidarity with a people who is daily subjected to the most violent oppression reinforced by exception measures which reveal the illegitimacy of the apartheid regime and the scandalous part played by those who back it.

The Meeting approves of the proposal made by members of the European Parliament to invite Winnie Mandela and delegates of ANC, UDF and trade-unions at the session of July 1986, which would contribute to meet the urgent necessity to develop and strengthen information on the realities of apartheid. In this regard the Meeting wishes specified efforts to be focused on youth education for the elimination of racism and apartheid.

1987 should be declared International Year of Struggle against Apartheid and should be the opportunity for the launching of a world forum under the aegis of the United Nations. This forum would gather together all the forces of the world involved into the

struggle to definitively defeat apartheid. It would be open to governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as recognized personalities in the field of science, arts and culture, and would be the deepest expression of the will of the people of South Africa until final victory.

With the deepest concern the Meeting greets Nelson Mandela, the political prisoner who has been in jail for more years than any other one in the world has, and who personifies and inspires his people's surge for freedom with an admirable courage. The Meeting proposes the Royal Academy of Norway Nelson Mandela's candidature for the Nobel Peace Prize.

In this spirit it finally demands the liberation of all the political, trade-union, anti-apartheid activists, the immediate lifting of the state of emergency declared on the 12th of June 1986 for an indeterminate length of time, and the stopping of all kinds of repression.

Convinced that the criminal apartheid regime can only hold out because it uses violence and gets support from some powers which put their own interests before the general ones, the Meeting solemnly calls upon all the progressive forces of the world to amplify their protest and take all the necessary initiatives so that blanket sanctions against the Pretoria regime can eventually be implemented, as demanded by the people of South Africa,struggling for freedom and the elimination of the racist apartheid regime.

Statement By The Emergency Meeting Called by AAPSO In Solidarity against The Aggression On Lebanon And Palestine And The Formulation Of a New Middle East**
22nd April 1996
Cairo - ARE
Final Declaration

For more than 10 days now, Israel has been launching a continuous barbaric war against Lebanon - as people and land - and is spreading destruction and killing and is forcing those who survive to flee as refugees, thereby emptying southern Lebanon of its people and residents. Israel is also leveling Palestinian houses to the ground and turning the Palestinian land, after the siege, into a big detention camp where all values, peoples' rights and human rights are trampled upon.

The world is simply watching and the US is blessing and charging the victims of the aggression with terrorism, while it is supporting the Israeli aggression as an Israeli sovereign right, namely the right to self-defense. Meanwhile, the Security Council and primarily the big North countries and members of the peace - making conference are refusing to condemn the aggression and issued a decision equating the aggressor and the victim of the aggression, if not implicitly holding the victim responsible.

Meanwhile, some Arab states are still boosting their relations with Israel and ultimately reaching diplomatic recognition, normalization and the establishment of economic partnerships.

The doves-hawks myth among the Israeli leadership only reveals the fact that was clear from the beginning, namely that

* AAPSO Publications (No.170).
** Transleatd by: Mrs Rosette Françes

Zionism and its Middle East scheme must prevail, its influence must be the strongest and its presence and borders limitless. This is the new reality. Silence is imposed on some so their voices do not go beyond condemnation and denunciation at best. Exile, killing, destruction and displacement are reserved for those who resist and the charge of terrorism is a ready charge reserved for those who struggle against occupation and the usurpation of homelands.

The Zionist Israel is defying the whole world and international legitimacy. It does not abide by any UN resolution especially those on the Palestinian issue and southern Lebanon (Resolution 425) and on the Golan Heights. It does not even abide by the agreements it concluded itself and keeps procrastinating and wreaking havoc thus turning the Oslo Accord into a trap for peace and a mere pretext for those who wanted to bring to the open their covert relations with it.

The aggression on Lebanon is not a war against the Lebanese resistance and Hezbollah, but a war against Lebanon as a nation. It is not a clash with Hamas and others, but is a consolidation of the occupation and an imposition of conditions for an Israeli-Palestinian settlement in favor of Israel and at the expense of the Palestinian people and the establishment of their state, with Jerusalem as its capital.

Israel is not clashing with terrorist groups but with the Arab will which is resisting its presence. The war is not a war of a peace - loving Israel against terror. It is a colonialist, terrorist fierce Zionist war against the resistance of occupation, which is the most honorable and the noblest war. Claiming that it is terrorism simply gives precedence to the colonialist logic which sees its resistance as an intimidation of its own interests.

As the participants in this emergency meeting see the Israeli menace aggravating- with the support of western powers and of Arab- Israeli relations at all levels and also see the humiliating

Arab conditions, they demand a stand in defense of Arabism and Arab sovereignty by:

First: The meeting's absolute support of the brotherly people of Lebanon and appreciation of the Syrian Arab stand. The meeting considers the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories the real cause of these sufferings and of the acts of violence which the Arab region is witnessing. The meeting demands Israel to fully withdraw from southern Lebanon, the occupied Syrian Golan and all the occupied Arab territories.

Second: Considering freezing all official relations with Israel until it withdraws from all the occupied Arab territories and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, with Jerusalem as its capital.

Third: Extending all types of consolidation to the resistance of the forces of the Zionist occupation of any Arab land.

Fourth: Continuing the boycott of every company that deals with Israel and linking the boycott only to real, just and lasting peace.

Fifth: Firmly standing against all the dubious schemes in the region.

The Aftermath Of September 11th And Its Impact On the World Today*
29th - 1st September 2002
Sri Lanka - Kolombo

General Declaration

21 foreign delegates representing China, Cyprus, India, Iraq, Japan, Nepal, United Kingdom and Palestine along with the members of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Association of Sri Lanka and the Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO met for three days and deliberated on the theme, "Aftermath of September 11th and its Impact on the World Today".

The delegates highlighted the grave situation facing the people of the world vis-a-vis the environment enacted after the tragic September 11th.

Rather than making a correct analysis of the causes of attack, the US has taken the position of creating a war hysteria in fighting terrorism through military means. The devastating war against Afghanistan has savaged that country killing thousands and leaving millions in misery. While the budget for war machinery has been increased, there is a serious threat posed to the sovereignty of independent states. In the post bipolar world situation the natural tendency is the movement towards multi-polarity. The USA however would like to push the world towards unipolarity. This is actually being resisted.

The process of globalization continues with full protection to the transnational corporations to exploit the resources of the world

* AAPSO Publications (No.183).

and accrue maximum profit at the expense of the welfare of the people especially in the developing countries. As a result poverty increases along with diseases like Aids spreading widely. Disparity between the poor and rich countries are widening alarmingly.

Arms production has resulted in diversion of resources from economic development. Conflicts both within and among states have intensified rather than finding solutions. In this context, meeting in Colombo, the Conference wishes the current peace process in Sri Lanka all success. The Conference also expressed strong desire of the people of South Asia for a speedy solution of the Indo-Pak tensions. Proper conditions for talks between the two countries must be created by stopping all support for cross border terrorism.

Environment continues to deteriorate as a result of non-implementation of the Rio Agreement by major powers. Global warming is posing a direct threat to the planet with drought and massive floods devastating countries.

International monetary institutions reap high benefits by prescribing unaffordable conditions in providing capital for economic growth. Social tension increases giving way to instability and chaos as seen in some countries in Latin America, Asia and Africa.

The WTO rules regarding protection provided in the form of subsidies to agriculture in rich countries have adversely affected the agriculture in developing countries to the extent of destruction of poor countries economies. While the prices for products of developing countries fall along with their national income, developed countries are in a position to dictate terms to developing countries in trade.

The political situation in the world is assuming a critical dimension. Sovereignty of many independent countries is being threatened under the new concept developed by USA as "Axis of

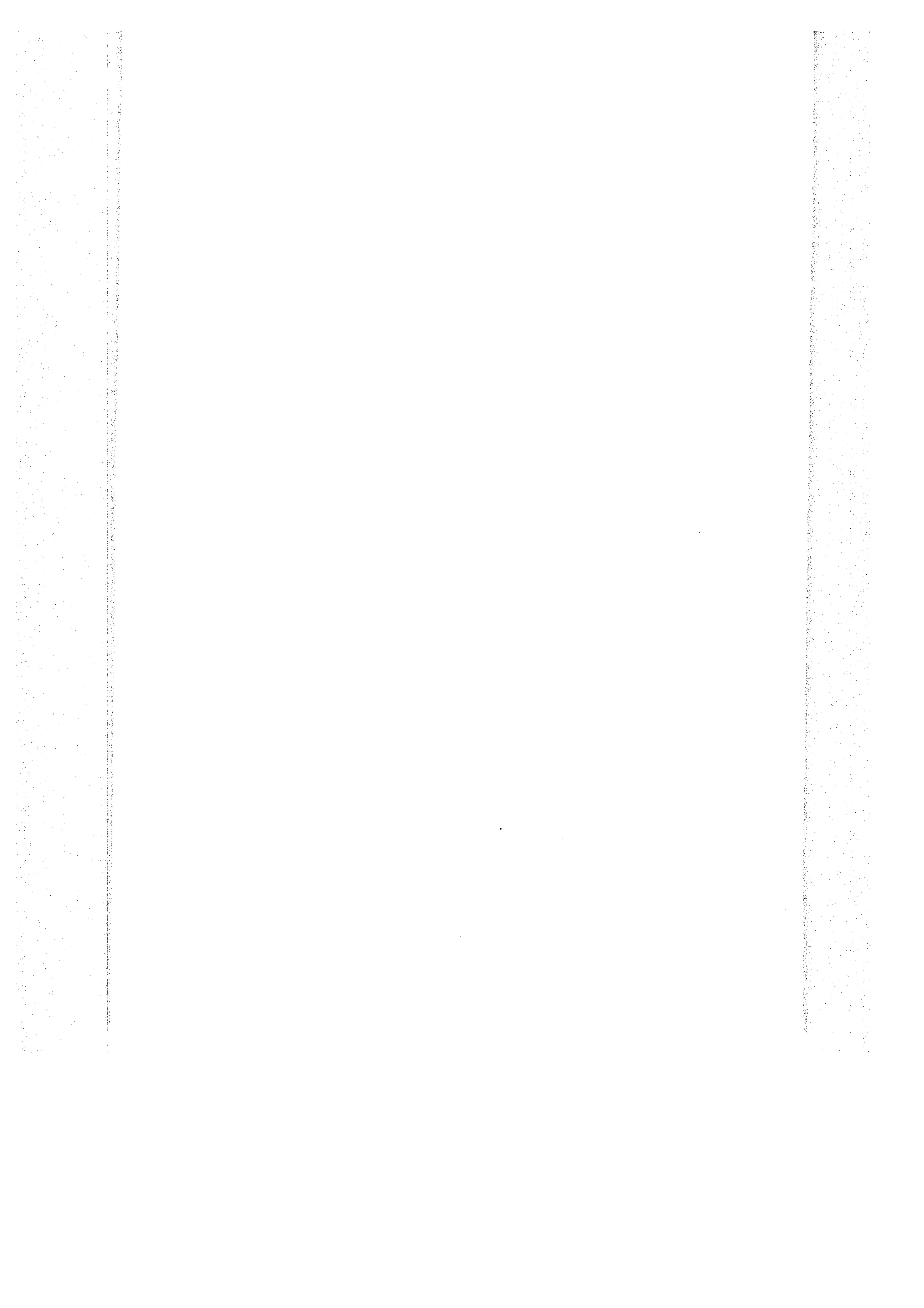
Evil". This includes countries like Libya, North Korea, Cuba etc. The Cyprus problem remains unsolved due to Turkish intransigence. The United Nations has been sidelined and its supremacy undermined.

Palestinians are continued to be denied their right to homeland in most inhuman manner. The Conference declares its support for the Palestinian people in their struggle and right for termination of Israeli occupation. The Palestinian State on all territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 with East Jerusalem as its Capital and a just solution to Palestinian refugees problem on the basis of UN Resolution 194. The Conference strongly condemns the Israel war crimes against the Palestinian people and calls for immediate stoppage of this Israeli aggression and also calls for international protection of Palestinian people. The Conference decries the US and Israeli efforts to interfere in the internal affairs of Palestinian people and their right to choose their leadership.

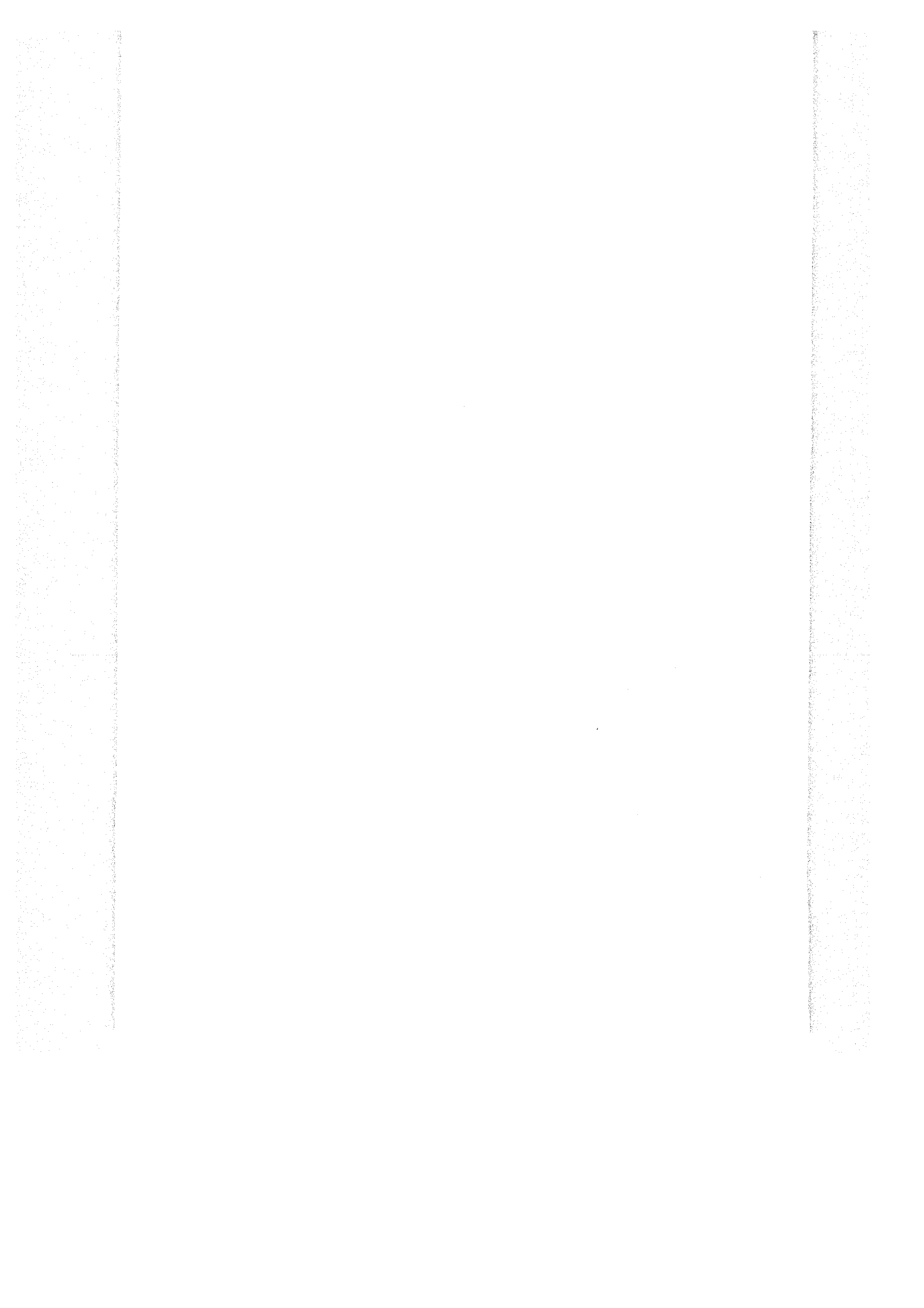
The unjustifiable embargo against Iraq continues while preparations for a unilateral US aggression is intensified. US threat to invade Iraq is a gross violation of territorial integrity of Iraq and naked interference into internal affairs which is against the charter of the United Nations and calls upon the lifting of the embargo forthwith.

These challenges are being met at various levels by socio-political movements. The world Social Forum is gaining momentum. Under these circumstances the delegates expressed need for solidarity among NGO's world over.

The discussions [illegible] the Conference highlighted the need for strengthening the activities of AAPSO and promoting greater co-ordinated expression of solidarity. As the AAPSO approaches its 45th Anniversary, its glorious role in advancing the interests of the Afro-Asian Countries must be strengthened and carried forward.



Secondly: Economic Issues



On Development, Disarmament And Peace The Afro-Asian Economic Seminar* 22nd - 28th February 1965 Algiers - Algeria

General Declaration

Preamble:

The Economic Afro-Asian Seminar, held in Algiers, capital of the Democratic and Popular Algerian Republic, from the 22nd to the 28th of February, 1965, is an event of the greatest importance in the common struggle waged by Afro-Asian Peoples against imperialism, colonialism, and neo-colonialism. It constitutes as well, a new and important type of activity undertaken by the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization.

The Economic Seminar attended by delegates from the Afro-Asian countries as well as by observers from Cuba, from the Permanent Bureau of the Asian Economic Seminar, and from the Economic Commission of the OAU was inaugurated by H.E. Ahmed Ben Bella, President of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. The participants were unanimous in their sincere thanks to the Algerian People, and its government for the precious contribution they had given to the preparation and the success of this Seminar.

The Economic Seminar, warmly hails the struggle of national liberation movement waged by all the oppressed peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America against imperialism and colonialism. This struggle is linked with the struggle of the Socialist and

* AAPSO Publications (No.139).

Democratic forces in the world, which constantly scores new successes, deals direct blows to the imperialists headed by the U.S.A. and gives a decisive contribution to the cause of world peace and the progress of humanity.

The Seminar stresses the fact that imperialism is never resigned to defeat. Its aggressive and war-like nature will never change.

The participants in this Seminar have stressed in their speeches the deep contradiction, on political, economic, and military plans between the imperialist countries and the Afro-Asian countries. The Economic Seminar underlines the fact that the poverty and the backwardness of Asian, African and Latin American countries are essentially due to the systematic plunder perpetrated by the imperialist powers in the African, Asian, and Latin American countries.

The seminar stresses the fact that the pressing task for Afro-Asian peoples is to unite in order to struggle relentlessly against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism headed by the United States, for full political and economic independence. The seminar mainly discussed economic problems and defined the most efficient means to intensify this action.

The Economic Seminar has demonstrated the fact that many Afro-Asian countries, especially the countries which are engaged in the non-capitalist way, have achieved positive results in the economic struggle against imperialism for the construction of an independent national economy.

The Economic Seminar stresses the fact that colonialism, while granting political independence to some countries, maintains economic control in such a way that the development of these countries is seriously handicapped. This domination of economy is done under cover of 'aid' and technical 'co-operation.'

Platform of Action

The participants in the Economic Seminar, after a thorough

study of all questions on the agenda and in a spirit of solidarity between Afro-Asian Peoples, have elaborated the following platform of action:

1- For Intensification of the Struggle of Peoples Fighting for National Independence:

a- Supply the liberation movements with aid, in arms, equipment, finance, and formation of military cadres. This aid only constitutes a form of support, as the peoples in struggle must essentially depend on their own efforts;

b- Implement economic boycott and sever diplomatic relations with the colonising countries and lead all the progressive forces of the world and the working masses of the colonial metropolies to refuse participation in loading or unloading of products coming from or destined to Portugal, Israel, South Africa, and Northern Rhodesia.

2- For the Reconstruction of an Independent National Economy:

a- To depend essentially on our own forces, on the enthusiasm, dynamism and initiative of the masses.

b- To reinforce mutual aid and cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit among all Afro-Asian Peoples.

3. To widen the scope of Solidarity of Afro-Asian Peoples with Latin American peoples; to develop links in all fields with the revolutionary countries in Latin America and particularly Cuba.

4. To achieve complete Independence:

a- to work for economic reconstruction, abolishing all privileges of imperialists;

b- to implement profound social and economic changes (agrarian reform, nationalization, expanding the bases of planning);

c- to promote economic relations between Afro-Asian countries on one hand and developing and socialist countries on the other on the basis of equality and mutual benefit;

d- to revise foreign debts. Economic relations between socialist countries and developing Afro-Asian countries should be on the basis of aid without any conditions or interests;

e- to limit economic relations with imperialist countries without severing them entirely and without any conditions;

5- To harmonize and improve finances :

a- to study the financial situation inherited from colonialism.

b- to prepare the new bases for loans taking into account the concerns and economic objectives of the countries concerned.

6. For the Formation and Promotion of Cadres:

a- to immediately replace and in the most favourable conditions the old colonialist cadres;

b- to form cadres to prepare for and guarantee the reconstruction of a genuine independent national economy;

c- to standardize, through planning, the promotion of cadres in the Afro-Asian countries.

The Economic Seminar reaffirms that its work, in its entirety, exclusively comes within the framework of the Afro-Asian Latin America Peoples' Solidarity Movement and that its decisions therefore cannot be connected in any way nor influenced by any organ of the UNO.

US imperialists use the United Nations as a means to implement their policies of neo-colonialism, aggression and subversions, of exploitation and control of our countries on the political, military and economic fields. The economic seminar condemns the control and manipulation of the U.N.O. by US imperialists.

The Economic Seminar, after consultations, takes note of the Algerian delegation's proposal and proposes to the Executive Committee of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement to create organs which would study and propose to it solutions to accelerate the political and economic independence of Afro-Asian countries.

The Afro-Asian Economic Seminar Re-affirms:

- Its full support to the people of South Vietnam in its heroic struggle against American imperialism, for independence and democracy, peace and neutrality. The Seminar recognises the National Front of liberation as the sole and genuine representative of the people of South Vietnam.
- Its firm support to the people of North Vietnam struggling against the military provocations of American imperialists, for safeguarding the country's sovereignty and for peace in Indo-China.
- Its firm support to the people of the Congo (Leopoldville) in its heroic struggle against imperialist interference and aggression.
- Its firm support to the people of Cuba in its heroic struggle against the provocations and aggressions of American imperialism.
- Its firm support to the armed struggle waged by the peoples of Angola, so-called Â«PortugueseÂ» Guinea and Mozambique, against Portuguese imperialism and its imperialist accomplices in N.A.T.O., and to the struggle of the Kamerun and other countries for freedom and liberation.
- Its firm support to the peoples of South and South West Africa in their just struggle against racial discriminations and the criminal apartheid policy, and for liberation.
- Its firm support to the struggle of the Zimbabwe people against the racialist regime of the settler minority imposed by force on the African people of Zimbabwe.
- Its firm support to the peoples of Basutoland, Swaziland and the so-called Â«FrenchÂ» Somaliland as well as the other African peoples in their just struggle for independence and liberty.

--- Its firm support to the Palestinian people in its just struggle against Israel, the instrument of imperialism, and for the return of the Arab refugees, as well as to the Cypriot people in its struggle for "self-determination".

- Its firm support to the Arab peoples in their just struggle against imperialism and colonialism.
- Its firm support to the Indonesian people in its just struggle against "Malaysia" the neo-colonialist plan forged by Anglo-American imperialism.
- Its firm support to the people of the Arab South, Aden and Oman, struggling against British imperialism.
- Its firm support to the people of the so-called Â«FrenchÂ» Somaliland against the oppression and injustice of French colonialism.
- Its firm support to the armed struggle of the North Kalimantan people for national liberation.
- Its firm support to the Korean people in its struggle for the cessation of the criminal South-Korean-Japan talks aiming at maintaining the partition of Korea and fabrication of the NATO aggressive bloc, for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and for realizing the reunification of the country.
- Its firm support to the Japanese people in its noble patriotic and anti-American struggle.
- Its firm support to the Laotian people in its struggle against imperialist intervention and aggression.
- Its firm support to the Cambodian people in its just struggle against the subversive plots of imperialism.
- Its firm support to the Latin American Peoples in their heroic struggle against imperialism and for national liberation.

The Seminar is fully convinced that if they unite more closely and persevere in the struggle, braving every difficulty and waging till the end of the struggle against imperialism and in particular American imperialism, the peoples of Asia, Africa and other countries of the world will achieve the final victory in their struggle for national liberation.

The International Seminar On Oil As A Weapon In The Struggle Against Imperialism And Israeli Aggression And A Means To The Development Of An Independent National Economy*
11th - 14th November 1972
Baghdad - Iraq
General Declaration

The International Seminar on "Oil as a weapon in the Struggle against Imperialism and Israeli Aggression and as a Means for Independent Economic Development", organized by Organization and the National Council for Peace and Solidarity the World Peace Council, the African-Asian peoples' Solidarity in Iraq, was held in Baghdad, Iraq, from November 11-14, 1972. Its participants from 34 countries hold various political and ideological convictions and work in different scientific and social fields, oil institutes, ministries and in 10 international organizations.

Oil and other resources of the developing countries in the hands of the imperialist monopolies have been utilized against the liberation and other interests of the peoples.

The exploitation of the oil in the Middle East has been one of the major means of dividing the Arab homeland and occupying Palestine. Moreover, it is the main source and means of recurring aggressive wars of annexation against other neighbouring Arab countries. It is also being used to supply aggressive war-machines in Indochina and Africa.

Arab oil can and should be used against the imperialist aggression and occupation, for the liberation of Arab occupied territory and the restoration of the national rights of the Palestinian

* AAPSO Publications (No.60).

peoples, particularly their right to self-determination.

The struggle of the peoples of the developing countries for emancipation has entered a new stage. It has been, and is directed towards liberating their natural and other resources from imperialist exploitation. These resources have been recently nationalized, in whole or in part, in several countries such as Iraq, Algeria, Syria, Egypt, as well as in Mexico, Peru, Chile, etc.

The peoples of the developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America have the indisputable right to own through nationalization, control and use their resources in their own interests for progressive social transformation in their countries. This right has been reasserted by United Nations' resolutions, the International Court of Justice, the Georgetown Conference of Non-Aligned States and the Lima Conference of Developing Countries.

The restoration of oil and other national resources to their legitimate owners will put an end to these resources being used by imperialist forces of war and exploitation. Moreover, it will serve the interests of all peoples of the world: the welfare of both producers and consumers and even the welfare of the peoples of the imperialist states themselves, thus serving the cause of world peace and justice.

While being plundered by the imperialists, oil has brought tremendous profits to very small cliques of monopolists, leaving the real owners impoverished and backward. Oil, as a source of capital, energy, and the development of industry, when rationally used by the oil-producing countries will play a great role in the economic, social and cultural development of these countries; it will consolidate their national independence and their economic liberation, which is the essence of freedom from imperialist domination.

The peoples of the world have learned from experience that the nationalization of oil or other national resources is resisted by the

imperialist monopolies. The imperialists are taking various measures and resort to machinations to defeat nationalization. They hatch new conspiracies and exert economic and political pressures, including the disruption of national unity and the dividing of the patriotic forces, inciting reactionary coups d'état and even undertaking direct, overt aggression. Relying on international reactionary elements, the imperialists strive to isolate the national liberation movement from their allies, especially the Soviet Union and other countries.

The victory of the peoples in their struggle against the imperialist monopolies requires the consolidation of national unity and the mobilization of the popular masses to confront and foil the imperialists and reactionary schemes and conspiracies. Political and material support of the forces of peace and progress is an indispensable pre-requisite for the victory of the battle of nationalization of oil and other natural resources. The economic and technical assistances rendered by the Soviet Union and the Socialist Countries are very important factors for overcoming the difficulties and sabotage fomented by the imperialists. The concrete support of other underdeveloped countries which themselves are importers of oil or other natural resources can be an additional significant factor in this effort and should be encouraged by every means possible. The role of this aid in the early critical stages of nationalization is decisive for its success. The democratic mass movement in Western European countries and the United States is a very effective weapon in mobilizing public opinion and exerting pressure on the governments of these countries to establish relations with the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, on the basis of mutual benefits, respect for their national sovereignty and their right to control their resources.

The participants in this international oil seminar pledge themselves to defend the right of all peoples to own and utilize

their natural resources and other national wealth for their own social progress and for the benefit of humanity. They appeal to all peoples and all national and international organizations to make their contribution to the success of the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle against imperialism, neo-colonialism and the imperialist monopolies.

On Oil And Raw Materials For Economic Development, Social Progress And Equitable Economic Relations*
1st - 4th November 1974
Baghdad - Iraq

Statement

The First International Oil Seminar held in Baghdad in 1972 projected the role of oil in the struggle for independence and for economic development.

Its scientific works and conclusions exposed the plundering and exploiting role of the international oil monopolies, directed first against the producing countries, but also against the peoples of the oil consuming countries.

It concluded that the main line of struggle should aim at nationalization of oil, increasing the price of oil so that the oil producing countries may receive the appropriate revenues for their natural resource, and emphasized the need for actions against monopoly price extortion in the consuming countries. It stressed the need for the use of additional oil revenues for the economic development of producing countries and for raising living standards in these countries and financing needed social reforms.

The pioneering actions in this respect of such countries as Iraq and Algeria were noted. The route of participation, in which the oil monopolies were left in effective control of the oil, and minority stock participation became another way of receipt of inadequate royalties, was criticized. The principle of cooperation of oil

* AAPSO Publications (No.70).

producing countries with their true alies, the socialist countries was stressed. Similarly was emphasized the need for cooperation with the developing countries that need oil, and assistance to them in arranging to finance the purchase of oil.

The stormy events of the last two years have proved the correctness of the work of the first seminar. Its documents have contributed weapons in guise the struggle of the peoples against the international oil monopolies and to the tremendous, historic victories, that the oil producing countries have won in this short time.

The movement for nationalization of oil has gained invisible momentum. In most important producing countries, including even those with conservative governments, the process of complete nationalization is well underway. The prices of petroleum have been raised to provide the producing countries with a fairer share of the values of their oil. The unity of OPEC as an instrument of struggle by oil exporting countries against the imperialist cartel has been important, and its effectiveness and boldness increased. Already there have been substantial steps taken in a number of producing countries to use the increased oil revenues, and nationally controlled oil to stimulate economic development, all-round industrialization, and raising of mass living standards.

Several producing countries have increased and broadened their economic and technical cooperation with the socialist countries, and have received from them necessary political material and moral support to deter armed intervention by imperialist powers to reverse the course of history, and to regain control of their oil under new conditions. A number of producing countries, notably Iraq, have contributed funds and initiated programmes for financing the purchase of oil by oil-poor developing countries, and have initiated broader economic cooperation with these countries.

Thus history has been moving with truly revolutionary speed, and it places before the peoples of the world, including the oil producing countries, new tasks.

The sixth extraordinary session of the United Nation General Assembly held in April-May 1974 adopted a historic Declaration on the Establishment of a new International Economic Order and a programme of action to realize it.

This proclaimed as central parts of a new code of international law the unconditional right of countries to control their own resources, to use them for national development, the impermissibility of interference by multinational corporations and corresponding governments in this progress, and the mutuality of interest of peoples or producing and consuming countries, the desirability of cooperative organizations of countries exporting the same raw materials.

The Second Baghdad International Oil Seminar supports calls for prompt implementation of these documents of the United Nations. It endorses the subsequent documents on the problems of raw materials and development adopted by the World Peace Council and by the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization.

The Seminar has made a significant contribution towards implementing these principles in defining the goals of this new stage, and specifying ways of reaching these goals.

Recent developments, as demonstrated by the Seminar papers revealed the true nature of the oil crisis in the developed capitalist countries. The papers refuted the imperialist propaganda which blames the runaway inflation of the capitalist countries on the oil-producing countries.

In the developed capitalist countries the oil monopolies have been striving to make up for their losses in the producing countries at the expense of the consuming public. They have raised the prices to consumers several times as much as would correspond to the higher prices of crude oil, and have tripled their already

enormous profits.

The inflation, the financial crises, the rise in unemployment and the tendency to decline of production, are not the result of higher oil prices. They are consequences of the deepening contradictions of capitalism of the increased monopolization of economic life of profiteering multinational corporations, and the inaction of hundreds of billions in usurious interest by the giant international banks. Inflation is especially spurred by wasteful and inflationary military spending, by wasteful expenditures by the giant corporations and by the big banks, by the continuation of price plundering of developing countries by monopolies.

These evils are reducing the living standard of the working people in the capitalist countries in a way not seen since the years before World War II. Popular movements against the monopolies responsible for this are growing in the capitalist countries.

The Seminar projected the main line of struggle of the peoples of capitalist countries against these evils. This consists of the formation of broad anti-monopoly fronts that will win radical reforms and end the untrammeled domination of life by the giant monopolies.

Such movements are in course of development in a number of capitalist countries. Prominent in their programmes are the call for nationalization of the oil industry, the taking over the cartelized facilities which stand between the consuming countries and the producing countries. It is the cartels which bring the prices of fuel out of reach of the large masses of the people. Also included are the more rapid development of their own energy resources, with due consideration for environmental problems, the rolling back of monopoly profit margins, and the elimination of wasteful use of oil, which became institutionalized as a result of oil company propaganda, and guidance of development policy, at the expense of really balanced development of transportation structure and fuel patterns.

Attention was given to the balance of payments problems of developed capitalist countries. Imperialist propaganda attributes these problems, and the monetary crisis, were acute long the cause of the United States, are its huge military expenditures abroad, the unprecedented export of capital by its multinational corporations, and the depreciation of value of the dollar. More generally, the causes are the uneven development of capitalism, the anarchist internationalization of financial capital, with tens of billions being shifted from country to country in search of highest profit.

At the same time, a number of developed capitalist countries have really urgent balance of payments problems in connection with the sharp increase in the prices of raw materials, including oil.

Especially important are working out of cooperation between the oil exporting countries and the developing countries which import oil. Forms of cooperation can include arrangements for exchange of oil for raw materials, foodstuffs, and industrial products, cooperative industrial projects involving the division of labour; special forms of deferred payment, and in emergencies concessionary pricing arrangements.

In important cases, however, no short item balancing is possible, especially where developing countries are suffering from multiplied prices of imported oil and food, without corresponding increases in export prices of their products. In such cases, the oil exporting countries can appropriately, and with mutual advantage, provide easy-term credits and their financial assistance to these developing countries so that they can import the oil necessary for fuel and for fertilizer and other industrial needs. This will improve the unity of all developing countries with respect to the whole range of political, economic and social problems, and thereby hasten the victory of the world liberation struggle, and achievement of the new World Economic Order.

Particular importance was attached to the further development

of cooperation between the socialist countries and the oil exporting countries. The socialist countries' assistance to the Arab and other oil exporting countries has been different in kind from the "aid" provided by countries of the multinational corporations.

Industries established with the aid of socialist countries remain under the complete control of minerals discovered and extracted with the aid of socialist countries. The developing countries determine their own social structure and military independence, without dictation or interference by socialist countries.

The principle of mutuality must be recognized. The socialist countries are building a better life and steadily developing without crisis, on the basis of the planned labour of their own peoples. They are expanding their economic ties with non-socialist countries, as part of the general process of detente which is favourable to the cause of world peace and disarmament.

Socialist countries also face problems arising from the inflation of prices on capitalist world markets, and the increasing scale of financial requirements associated therewith.

Trade relations between socialist countries and oil producing countries should be paid attention for the struggle for full economic independence is not over. The oil monopolies are striving to re-establish neo-colonial domination under new conditions. The oil producing countries need their allies more than ever for this new stage of struggle.

The Seminar focussed attention on a new concept for multilateral cooperation between oil producing countries, oil-poor developing countries and socialist countries.

The industrialized socialist countries are now in a position to supply equipment and know-how to the developing countries on the most favourable terms and without political interference. They provide markets for the products of these countries.

Surplus revenues of the oil exporting countries can be used for such tripartite arrangements thereby establishing credits with the

socialist countries for exporting supply of equipment, know-how and training to effectuate those long-term plans which are essential for the harmonious and steady economic progress of the oil producing countries.

Simultaneously, supplies from the socialist countries to the oil-poor developing countries will ease this balance of payment problems, help then solve their food emergency and speed up their development programmes, which are now in crisis as a result of the pressure of the monopoly dominated capitalist world market.

The proceeding stage of struggle centered around nationalization of oil and the raising of below - value prices. The Seminar pointed out problems and directions of solution for the next stage.

Prices of oil and other commodities are a most important issue. The US Government has launched a campaign, including threats of military intervention, demanding unilateral reduction of prices by the exporting countries, and claiming the right to receive the oil of these countries. At the same time, it does nothing to reduce the multiplied prices of food and agricultural raw materials, coal and various industrial products exported by the United States.

Producing countries properly resist demands for unilateral reduction in the price of oil, under threat of imperialist reprisals and regardless of equitable exchange relations. These can be established only by mutual adjustment to prices of commodities working in the international trade. Global inflation can be checked in the interest of the peoples of all countries rather than the profits of multinational corporations.

That is through international commodity agreements, where this may be suitable and establishing standard prices for all major commodities, agricultural and industrial, with provisions for long-term stability and periodic review. Such agreements should be negotiated under the auspices of the United Nations, and

include all groups of countries, without affecting the sovereignty of countries over their natural wealth, while guaranteeing the free movement of modern technology to developing countries.

The approach of abanding together of major capitalist consuming countries, to confront the oil producing countries, on the one question of oil, is clearly disadvantageous to the latter, and should be opposed by them. Proposals to include developing countries that import oil, and a broader range of commodities, are an improvement, but still disadvantageous to the developing countries and peoples of the world if they exclude socialist countries. These countries require participation in the agreements, and their participation will strengthen the balance of force against multinational monopolies.

Similar approaches and possibilities exist concerning negotiation of long term on commodity supply agreements wherever this may be suitable.

It must be understood that the oil corporations have not given up their attempts to retain control of world oil. For the most part, they still retain control of the distribution processing, and transport of oil from the exporting countries, and within the consuming countries.

Their real aim is not the reduction in the price of crude oil. It is the maintenance of control and the restoration in new, disguised forms of domination of the production of oil in the exporting countries. In general, multinational industrial and banking corporations are striving to obtain access to the increased revenue of the oil producing countries to use these for building a new kind of neo-colonialist set up in these countries, distorting the economic and social development of these countries for their greater profit.

This carries important implications for the development plans of the producing countries.

Concerning oil as an exhaustible resource, they should not

produce according to the dictates of buying corporations, but in quantities required for their own energy and industrial needs and real world needs, and to provide the export revenues that can be profitably used for financing import requirements for long-term development programmes and for steadily raising living standard.

Development cannot be accomplished overnight. It requires a plan, coordinated industrial and agricultural structure, geared to the pace of training of skilled and professional labor force, to the transformation of consumption patterns. This places a limit, although an expanding limit, on the amount of revenues that can be used currently in any given country. Additional oil revenues can be utilized for assistance to oil-floor developing countries, and especially for regional cooperation among developing countries. The mutual aid of an economic and military nature, among the Arab countries, is an outstanding example of this: The Venezuelan project for utilization of oil revenues in Latin American development projects is another example.

However, the Seminar stressed the undesirability of the pilling up of billions and tens of billions of dollars of excess oil revenues in the big banks of the major capitalist powers. These banks are thoroughly interlocked with the multinational oil and other industrial corporations. To turn over to them, or to the central banks of the major capitalist countries, the funds received for oil are almost equivalent to giving up the oil without payment; the same applies to private investments by ruling families of some oil exporting countries, of investments in real estates and corporation stocks in the developed capitalist countries.

Similar considerations apply to the forms of control of industrial projects in the oil producing countries. Now large oil revenues are being used for development of oil refining, petro-chemicals, oil tankers, industrialization and irrigation and power and other infrastructure projects. In this connection, it is necessary to procure from developed countries, socialist and capitalist,

equipment, know-how and training. It is desirable to purchase these commodities and services. Corporations of the capitalist countries are proposing alternative arrangements whereby they invest in, become part owners of the new establishments in the oil exporting countries. In this case, they are simply reinversing funds of the oil exporting countries deposited in banks in their countries. They are obtaining a foot in the door for establishing control over the industries of the producing countries, and this is part of the new form of neo-colonialist drive, which is being pushed by the corporations of a number of big capitalist countries, speculating not only on legal ownership, but on alliances with pro-capitalist elements in the producing countries.

There is no reason why complete ownership cannot be retained by the producing countries, and the technical know-how, licenses, etc., purchased in exchange for oil, purchased outright, or with agreed royalty payments.

Similar consideration concerns the structure of industrial development. Particular corporation urges the construction of isolated petrochemical plants, producing one partial product of use to that corporation, but of dubious value to the producing country, without complementary advanced production. Integrated production structures should be planned. At the same time, these can be planned on a multinational basis, involving cooperation between groups of developing countries, or arrangements between oil exporting countries and other countries, socialist or capitalists.

The working people of the developing capitalist countries, as of the developing oil-poor and food - poor countries, are suffering from the extortion of the multinational corporations, and the crisis of capitalist world economy. Tendencies to regard people of the capitalist countries as having excessive living standards, as being beneficiaries of the profiteering of the monopolies, must be rebuffed.

Just as it is the duty of the working people and anti-monopoly organizations in the capitalist countries to support the struggle of the developing country for full economic independence, it is in the interest of the oil producing countries to seek forms of cooperation with the people of the capitalist countries in their struggle to preserve living standards, combat poverty and unemployment and racial discrimination.

The Seminar concluded that ways can be found to ease balance of payment problems, and to promote trade between the oil producing countries and the developed capitalist countries to the mutual advantage of the peoples of both groups of countries. Under the new condition, there are greatly expanded markets for the machinery equipment, foodstuffs and technical know-how of the capitalist countries in the oil producing countries. This will provide employment to the working people of the capitalist countries and needed supplies of oil. The closing of the gap in living standards between the developed countries and the developing countries, including oil producing countries, is not at the expense of the people of developed capitalist countries. On the contrary, it can be to their lasting benefit provided only that the people of these countries take control of the economic relation out of the hands of the multinational monopolies that stand between them today.

To that end it is essential that the popular forces of the capitalist countries and the oil exporting countries cooperate in organizing direct distribution of oil, through exporting countries to consumer cooperative and democratically controlled state companies in the consuming countries, and in other ways to develop cooperation to thoroughly eliminate the role of the oil monopolies as middlemen, extracting a tribute both from producers and consumers. Similarly, it is the special responsibility of working people in the capitalist countries to prevent their governments from threatening or attacking, or taking economic reprisals against the oil exporting

countries, as a means of support by these governments of the multinational oil corporations.

An essential requirement for the success of this economic course is the relaxation of world tensions, the achievement of just peace in the Middle East and the realisation of the national right of the Palestinian Arab People and the Arab Gulf, the ending of imperialist intervention in South Vietnam, Cambodia and South Korea, the complete ending of colonialism and apartheid and agricultural riches and people's labour of the countries of Latin America by North American imperialism.

The carrying out of the important UN resolutions for disarmament, the acceleration of such projects as the European Security Conference, and the further relaxation of tension and development of cooperation in mutually advantageous sphere between capitalist and socialist countries.

We, the participants in the seminar, believe that the scientific work of this seminar, and its documents can be a significant contribution to the cause of peace, liberation and better life for all peoples.

Baghdad 3rd International Seminar: The Problem Of Development And The Struggle For A New International Economic Order*
1st- 4th June 1976
Baghdad - Iraq
Declaration

An international economic Seminar entitled -«The Problems of Development and the Struggle for a New International Economic Order-» convened in Baghdad on the first of June, which coincided with the fourth anniversary of the nationalization of Iraq Petroleum Company. The Seminar was held at the invitation of the National Council for Peace and Solidarity in the Republic of Iraq, in collaboration with the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization and the World Peace Council.

Prominent economic personalities from different parts of the world participated in the Seminar, which lasted until June 4.

Thirty research papers were submitted and extensively discussed in the effort to analyse and identify current problems facing the peoples, aspirations and struggle to achieve economic liberation, proceed on the road of development, progress, economic and social transformations, set up equitable international economic relations and deal with the different challenges that face development and the struggle for a new world economic order.

The research papers were classified, according to the main topics tackled by each, into three groups dealing with:

A) The problems and challenges which confront struggle of

* AAPSO Publications (No.80).

developing countries for economic liberation, independent development, and economic and social transformation.

B) The role played by multi-national corporations in impeding development and obstructing equitable international economic relations.

C) Towards the establishment of a new world economic order, the major requisite of which is the founding of equitable economic relations among all countries.

At the conclusion of the Seminar, the participants issued the following Declaration:

Declaration of the Baghdad Seminar

The struggle of the peoples, particularly during the past decade, realised great victories in dismantling the colonial system of imperialism and foiling the cold-war policy, aiming at creating aggressive military blocs and interfering in the affairs of the peoples. The equilibrium in the balance of world forces heavily tipped in favour of the cause of national liberation, the easing of international tension, peaceful co-existence, as well as in interest of international cooperation and detente, and establishment of peace based on freedom and justice. Moreover, the developing countries' participation in determining world affairs grew in proportion with their unity and co-operation with the world socialist community. This was under-scored by the development of non-alignment movement along the anti-imperialist liberation road, as well as by the enhanced role of the representatives of the developing countries in the United Nations.

Thus, horizons were increasingly widened before the victory of the struggle of peoples for economic emancipation, as well as for saving hundreds of millions in the developing countries from the consequences of poverty, backwardness, diseases and famines left over by centuries of imperialist foreign domination and exploitation. The way also open for the emergence of more favourable circumstances for development, and economic and

social transformations. The right of peoples to liberate their natural resources and impose their national sovereignty over these resources, is now inalienable. This was also underlined in the various resolutions of the Non-alignment movement, as well as in the United Nations resolutions adopted at the General Assembly's sixth and seventh special sessions in 1974 and 1975, respectively.

Peoples achieved relative progress toward the liberation of their natural resources, particularly evident in the liberation of the oil wealth.

Nevertheless, the peoples' struggle towards this end faces resistance on the part of the imperialist countries which resort to two types of challenges:

First: Traditional methods of colonialism, including armed intervention, threats of war, planning reactionary coup d'etat and conspiracies. This was confirmed by bitter experiences, the most prominent examples of which: are the overwhelming devastation left by the American aggressive war in Vietnam; encouragement of Zionist aspirations and Israel's expansionist aggressive policy against the Arab people in Palestine, as well as against the neighbouring Arab countries, and instigation of the destructive civil war in Lebanon; the threats directed by the leaders of the United States to the oil-exporting Arab countries to occupy their sources of oil; their escalation of the imperialist reactionary armament policy in the Arab Gulf area, with what this implies of bleeding in the resources of these countries, squandering them or placing them at the service of the imperialist scheme rather than directing them to development and progress; organising foreign interventions against the people of Oman; the racist military coup d'etat in Chile; and the policy of racial discrimination in Southern Africa through the racist regimes collaborating with Zionism.

The Seminar considers the Republic of South Africa and Israel as the bastions of capitalist monopolistic expansion in Africa and

the Middle East, as well as the main supporters of multi-national corporations; it also considers deepening cooperation between Israel and South Africa as a threat to the economic independence of Arab and African countries.

The Seminar calls for the strengthening of economic and political relations among Arab and African States in the struggle for national sovereignty and economic independence.

Second: Apart from the above-mentioned ways and means, the imperialist powers take advantage of their privileged position with regard to developing countries, namely their control of world capitalist markets, of which the developing countries are still dependent.

Moreover, imperialism endeavours to adapt itself and its modes of activity in view of opposing development and hindering the social and economic transformations of the above-mentioned countries.

The governments of these imperialist countries whose interests are organically identified with those of the multi-national monopolistic corporations, continue their endeavours to maintain their domination over the peoples' resources, exploit their human potentialities and squeeze their financial resources through several means, including:

- Exporting the consequences of inflation prevailing in the capitalist economy, to the economies of developing countries;
- Establishing economic organisations and groups, such as the energy agency, and such other institutions, with the aim of shattering the gains realised by the peoples of the developing countries concerning their natural resources, and impeding the realisation of new gains;
- Seeking to disrupt the unity of the developing countries through various practices and pressures exercised on a number of them, due to their reactionary regimes or because of the economic difficulties they are facing;

- Discrimination in the sphere of foreign trade and of international division of labour against the developing countries;
- Resisting the establishment of an infrastructure for the development of national technology in the developing countries, by encouraging the emigration of brains and skills to the imperialist countries whilst imposing prices on industrial projects and industrial equipment as well as on the transfer of technology to the developing countries so as to make it impossible for the latter to implement the required development programmes;
- Raising the prices of manufactured goods, foodstuffs, agricultural products and construction material imported by developing countries to levels that are incompatible with the modest rise in raw material prices brought about by the peoples.

World imperialism is encouraged to perpetrate its hostile policy against the peoples' aspirations in developing countries, by excessive spending in non-productive spheres undertaken by some ruling reactionary cliques in these countries, which employ the revenues of raw materials, notably, of oil, in the capitalist market and spend excessively on intensive armament, unjustified by the requirements of national defence.

In the meantime, imperialist forces relying on feudal capitalist cliques and other reactionary elements in developing countries, endeavour to weaken economic cooperation with the socialist states.

Capitalist powers also endeavour to encourage trends and patterns of capitalist production in some developing countries by relying on their alliance with capitalist and feudal classes and other reactionary cliques. All this is done with a view to turning the public sector, in particular and the national economy, in general to a satellite and an extension of the capitalism of the State monopoly in advanced capitalist countries and seeking to maintain the developing countries in a state of dependency on the world capitalist market and submission to the laws of capitalist economy.

Hence, it becomes obvious that the process of development in the developing countries necessitates adherence by the latter to a firm policy against imperialism and its monopolistic companies, and gearing their resources toward development in accordance with a comprehensive system of scientific planning. It also necessitates releasing the masses' potentials by carrying out fundamental socio-democratic changes allowing the participation of women and the new generation, including youth and students, in the process of development, to achieve cultural progress. At the same time, it is also necessary to consolidate the unity of forces in developing countries and confront attempts by imperialist and reactionary forces to divide them, particularly by means of consolidating the non-alignment movement and strengthening its anti-imperialist course. The process of development necessitates unification of these forces struggling for progress, namely the masses in developing countries, the international working class and the socialist states.

It is also necessary and basic here to promote cooperation with the International Socialist Community not only to confront reactionary imperialist aggression but also to consolidate development programmes and independent development in these countries, and develop new patterns of equitable relations on the international level in the interest of the struggle waged to establish a new world economic order.

Moreover, the whole of mankind faces serious challenges and hazards due to the lagging rate of development of foodstuffs and other primary materials as compared to the high rate of population growth. Mankind also faces the threat of environmental pollution and the misuse of natural resources. All this would require joint international efforts and concerted struggle for all progressive forces and countries the world over to surmount these problems in the interest of the peoples and the cause of peace and progress.

It is necessary that Socialist and developing countries

collaborate in devising an indigenous technology in developing countries that accords with their circumstances and their economic as well as social aspirations.

The main obstacle standing in the way of these endeavours and such international cooperation is the imperialist monopolistic companies which do not cease to sabotage international peace and cooperation as well as international relations in general.

The establishment of equal international economic relations requires the common struggle by peoples of developing countries, thanks to mutual cooperation whilst relying on the support of the international socialist community and progressive forces throughout the world, particularly the movement of the working classes in capitalist countries, in order to raise the standard of living of the peoples of developing countries, to achieve their social and economic development and to enable them to effectively contribute to secure the victory of the cause of peace, freedom, equitable international cooperation, and economic and social independent development.

The peoples of these countries must exert constant efforts in order to diminish their links with the world capitalist market, reconstruct their independent national economies as well as continue the struggle for a new international economic order.

It is extremely important that socialist countries play a larger part in the formulation of a new international economic order.

Peoples face today the vital necessity to stop the arms race and realise disarmament so that the immense potentialities absorbed by the arms race may be released, channelling them to serve development and international cooperation and liquidating attempts of imperialist forces to cause tension and instigate wars; the necessity to end once for all the nightmarish threat of a destructive world war, as well as proceed along the path of complete national liberation and consolidation of peace, of the policy of peaceful co-existence and international cooperation, and,

consequently, the consolidation of world peace and of the security of peoples on the basis of freedom and justice.

The Baghdad Third International Seminar welcomes the initiative of the World Peace Council to convene a World Conference on Development in Budapest, Hungary, next October. It also expresses support and appreciation of efforts exerted in preparation for the conference as well as in securing required means to ensure its success.

International Conference On The Role Of Transnational Corporations And Economic Development Strategies*
25th - 27th April 1979
UNESCO - Paris

General Declaration

The International Conference on the role of Transnational Corporations and the Strategies of Economic Development organized in UNESCO, Paris from 25 to 27 April 1979 by AAPSO and AFASPA has rallied more than 100 delegates of Committees of Solidarity, trade unions and political national and international organizations of developing countries, developed capitalist and socialist countries.

The 1970's have been characterized by an unprecedented surge of the popular anti-imperialist movement in Asia and Africa. In a brief period, of less than a decade, these two continents as well as Latin America have witnessed events of world historical scope. New countries have taken the path of independent development, of resolute struggle against neo-colonialism, and for social and economic progress. Great liberating revolutions have been victorious in several countries, major progressive transformations took place in others. The major oil producing countries have successfully united to achieve control over and obtain good prices for their oil, to use for development and to weaken the grip of the multinationals in this key area.

The heroic people of Vietnam have been victorious over the United States war machine. The Arab national liberation

* AAPSO Publications (No.104).

anti-imperialist movement is countering neo-colonialist actions. The successes achieved by the national liberation movement in Africa particularly the independence of Guinea-Bisseau, Cape Verde, Angola and Mozambique, constitute an important factor in the development of the liberation struggle in Southern Africa where powerful blows are being dealt against the inhuman racist and colonial apartheid policy.

The whole capitalist system is shaken by a serious crisis because of the intensive economic upheavals which affect it as a whole destroying myth of steady development of capitalism. The profound industrial crisis, the energy crisis, the disintegration of the international monetary system, the uninhibited increase of inflation, an ever-worsening unemployment situation have left an indelible mark on the present situation facing the imperialist powers.

These factors have had a negative impact also on Asian and African states, causing a considerable deterioration in their trade and payment balances and unprecedented increase in debts. The events of the 1970's prove once again that the economic power of the imperialist states is based on the plundering of the national resources and exploitation of the labour of the developing countries, including migrant labour brought into the imperialist centres.

Having lost major positions to the peoples of the developing countries, the transnational corporations, backed by their governments, are intensifying their penetration and plundering of areas still under their control of strong influence.

In dozens of countries, imperialist circles support reactionary groups, provide financial assistance to terrorist organizations, organize deliberate provocations against progressive forces and encourage their allies to concentrate their military troops on the frontiers of other countries. Imperialist actions aim at kindling armed conflicts between the states of Asia and Africa in order to

justify interference, under the pretext of mediation, in the internal affairs of other countries, to enlarge their military bases, and to impose their demands and policy on others.

Stepping up the arms race to unprecedented heights, the U.S. and other NATO powers are striving to prepare for armed intervention to reverse the revolutionary process, and check gains of developing countries in political and economic independence. NATO powers have intervened openly and through mercenaries in Africa, while the U.S. government spokesmen openly threatened to intervene militarily in the oil-producing Arab countries. Israel is provided with additional billions of dollars worth weapons to continue and expand its occupation of Arab lands and prevent the realization of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. The leaders of Peking, abandoning the principles of Bandung, have turned China into adjacent of NATO and a belligerent force in South-East Asia by their aggression against Vietnam, and by their threat of a new aggression against it.

The arms race is a major source of rampant inflation with the heaviest costs falling on the developing countries. Imperialist powers strive to induce developing countries to join the arms race, enriching the munitions monopolies while further impoverishing the developing countries involved.

The imperialists and transnational corporations try in every way to destabilize those developing countries which have taken the course of independent, progressive development, especially those oriented towards the construction of socialism. Besides military pressures, they use all forms of economic discrimination and pressures, including trade embargoes, refusal of technology, price discrimination, etc. While depriving the developing countries of advanced technologies, the transnational corporations, and their governments organize a massive brain drain from these countries, striving thereby to remove the essential human basis

development. Luring away those trained at great expenses through the toil of the masses, the imperialists try to justify this form of robbery by reference to "human rights" and "freedom of emigration", while themselves depriving millions of immigrants of all human and social rights.

The strategic neo-colonialist line aims, at the present level, at maintaining in Asia and Africa as far as possible socio-economic structures inherited from colonialism, at binding these entries as tightly as possible to world capitalist economy. This responds to the needs of transnationals in resolving the crisis which affects them.

Neo-colonialist policy along with old colonialist policy, aiming at preventing the achievement of progressive transformation of the countries of Asia and Africa, aggravates the difficulties and problems facing the developing countries. Neo-colonialist ecologies endeavour to by-pass this problem, by drawing attention to isolated crisis situations or special manifestations of profound problems.

Such an approach allows us to focus attention on another level, thus enabling colonialism, by proposing temporary rather than radical solutions, by extending "aid" of minimal importance, to give the illusion that its attitude is constructive, But, in fact, it only attempts to blunt the contradictions, the aggravation of which would imperil the main mechanism of neo-colonialist dependence and oppression, and lead to resolute anti-imperialist action.

The principal recipe proposed bb neo-colonialism is the path of capitalist development. At first, it was even affirmed that it was enough to pave the way for private enterprise to ensure the development of the countries in Asia and Africa. As and when the peoples of these countries became aware of the objective necessity of enlarging the economic functions of the State and of having recourse to planning the neo-colonialists then desperately attempted to reduce this process to a regulation of the economy

whose only aim was the creation of a climate favourable to the development of private capitalist enterprise.

The experience of many countries shows that to adopt such a path inevitably leads to an abnormal and uneven development, to an increased misery of the masses, to the aggravation of social conflicts, and to the enslavement of the country by imperialism. National bourgeois regulation is powerless in the present context, to protect the country against the arbitrariness of the gigantic transnationals.

The transnationals have become a terrible new force of the world economy and an important agent of modern neo-colonialism.

Having enormous resources and a great manoeuvre flexibility and relying on the armed might of imperialist states they brazenly interfere in the economic and political life of Afro-Asian countries, in search of profits, treading over the peoples' most elementary rights and the sovereign rights of States, imposing orders which are to their advantage. By resorting to different methods, they seize the natural resources of Asian and African countries, plunder and unscrupulously exploit their peoples. International monopolies, through their activities, aggravate the economic difficulties of these countries. At the same time, by operating in the imperialist states, by provoking price increase, by transferring production from one country to another and by exercising other forms of action on the economic situation, international corporations are the origin, in the U.S.A., in Western Europe and in Japan, of a decrease in the standard of living, of inflation, of unemployment and other evils besetting the workers. It is only by eliminating their domination that the development of international economic relations can be ensured on principles of equality of rights and mutual advantage.

During these last years, developing countries have proposed a vast programme aiming at restructuring international economic

relations, at the creation of conditions favourable to the elimination of economic backwardness, and to the conquest of economic independence.

Being incapable of dismissing this legitimate aspiration, imperialism made use of a global strategy of integration and the new international division of labour to its advantage.

This strategy has the object of attributing to the people the responsibilities of their difficulties and to mobilize the working classes each against the other.

It is quite evident that the fragmentation of the talks and the intentional concentration of the attention on isolated problems can lead to the neglect of the whole of the initial exigencies. The final result will be greatly different from that expected. The peoples of Asia and Africa as well as the workers of imperialist powers are interested in the authentically democratic restructuration of international economic relations, and in the development of economic relations in accordance with the principles of equality and mutual advantages and those of peaceful coexistence of states with different socio-economic regimes.

Certain principles are evidently governing the strategy of development of the countries of Asia and Africa as well as Latin America, if it is to be successful.

1- Development must be in the interest of the masses, especially the workers, peasants and intellectuals, under control of political forces representing these social forces.

2- It must provide for rapid growth, It must combine modern technology with provision of employment for the masses of unemployment and semi-unemployed.

3- It must build national dignity and independence, democratic liberties and institutions, preserving unity of progressive forces and overcoming the heritage of colonialism and neo-colonialism. It must provide for the right of peoples to self-determination. It must defeat the brain drain, develop cadres with know-how for modern

industry and agriculture, and become part of the world of science and technology.

4- Every country must choose its own specific way of development, in accordance with its own history, cultural and economic heritage but in accord with well-known universal laws of development.

5- At the same time, a strategy for development cannot be autarchic. Each country must rely mainly on its own people and its own resources, but at the same time cooperate with others. There is a special importance to mutual cooperation and aid among developing countries. Collective self-reliance can and should be the basis of such cooperation for development. Also of particular importance is cooperation with the USSR and other socialist countries and peoples, which have proven their worth in non-exploitative cooperation with and aid to developing countries.

6- It must be in corporation with the working class and other progressive forces of the capitalist countries, for which the primary responsibility rests on the workers of the capitalist countries, exploited by the same transnational corporations.

The developing countries are playing an important role, and can and must do much more for the cause of peace and disarmament, for issolating the forces which threaten the world with thermonuclear catastrophe, and helping to win disarmament.

7- It should strive to develop cooperation with capitalist countries and concerns on the basis of equality, without permitting the old methods of super exploitation, with specification of all the rights of the New World Economic Order, including the unconditional right of the developing countries to own their own resources, and to take over any foreign investments on terms determined exclusively by themselves.

8- It must be in solidarity with those in the front line of struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction including the Palestinian people under the leadership of PLO and the fighting

forces against racism and apartheid in Southern Africa, for in striving to retain apartheid in Southern Africa, the forces of darkest racism and imperialism aim to reconquer the newly liberated lands of Africa.

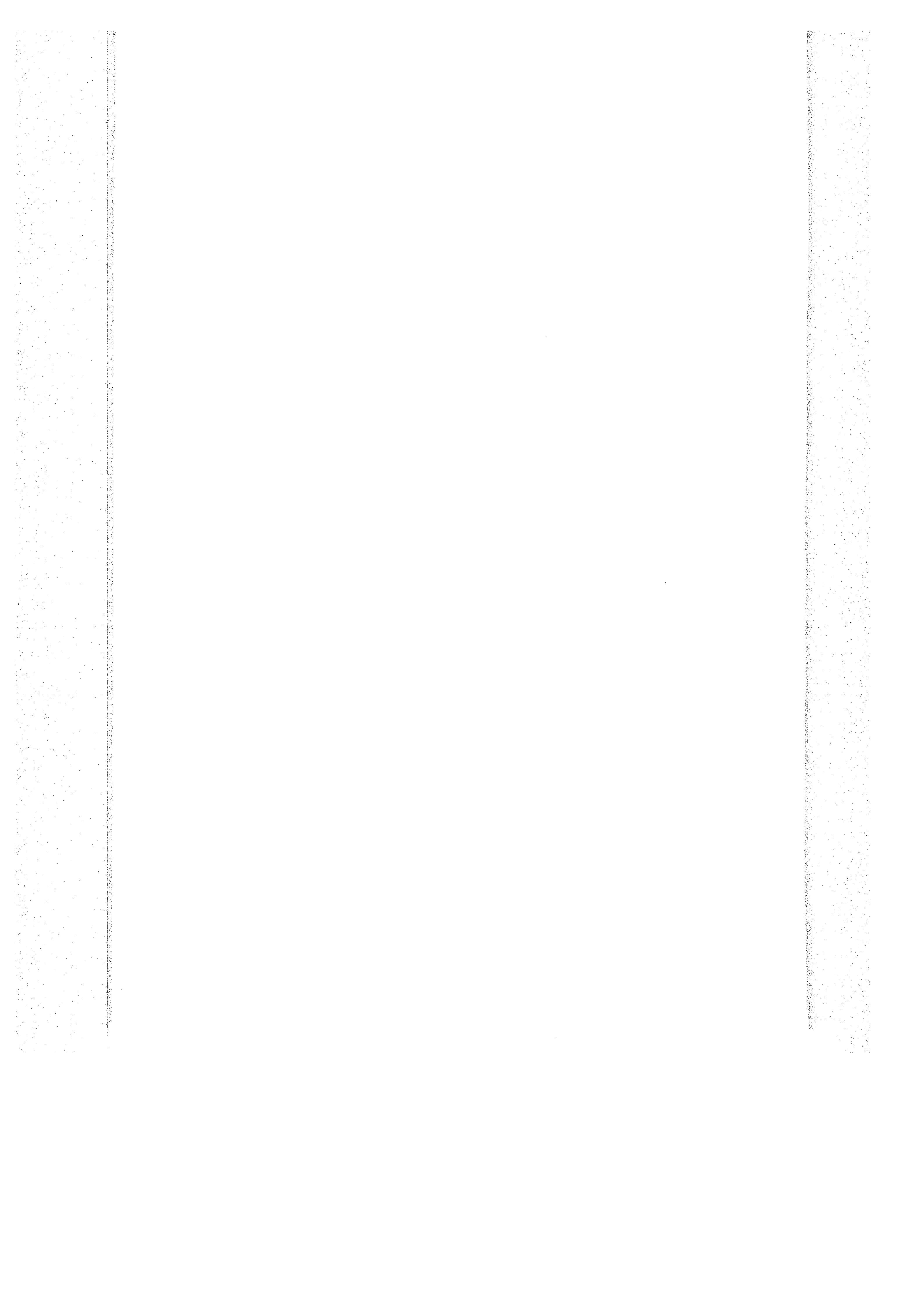
The Third Development Decade should be oriented along these lines.

AAPSO has been playing as a non-governmental international organization a prominent role in defending and consolidating these principles and in mobilizing world public opinion through publications, seminars, conferences, active delegations various events, in favour of genuine economic development and social progress in the developing countries.

Its cooperation with UN specialized agencies, foremost UNCTAD, and progressive democratic international and national non-governmental organizations such as AFASPA stands as a vivid example of the importance of international cooperation in this field.

World trends favour the forces of national liberation and social progress. The victories of the peoples are coming at a faster and faster pace. The struggle becomes more intense. But the alliances for peace, development and socialism are broadening and becoming ever more powerful. The cause of development of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America will win. The cause of better life for the billions of these continents, for a world of peace and progress, will win!

Thirdly: Military Bases, Peace and Disarmament



The International Conference Against Military Bases For Security And Cooperation In The Mediterranean - International Solidarity With The People Of Malta*
28th - 31st March 1980
Valletta - Malta
General Declaration

The First AAPSO Mediterranean Conference against Imperialist Bases and for Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean convened in Valletta, Malta, between the 28 - 31 March, 1980.

The participants at the Conference from 25 countries in Africa, Asia and Europe along with representatives of a number of fraternal International Organizations, while participating in the Maltese people's national celebration of the removal of foreign bases and restoration of full sovereignty, hailed the dismantling of NATO and British military bases by the Malta Labour Party in Government. They called for concrete international solidarity with the Maltese people who have only enjoyed genuine sovereignty since the 31st March 1978 and have already significantly contributed to Mediterranean security and cooperation by choosing a policy of non-alignment.

Profound concern was recorded at the recent deterioration international situation and at the escalation of military build-up by imperialism, which threatens détente, endangers national independence and social progress already achieved by the peoples and aims at covertly subjugating the newly independent countries and controlling their national resources and cultural structures.

* AAPSO Publications (No.139).

In their effort to impose their global exploitative policy, the imperialist forces established a vast chain of military bases and turned to a revival of the cold war climate.

Whereas the Soviet Union decided to reduce unilaterally its armed presence in Europe, the US announced their decision to deploy the sophisticated medium range rockets and undermine the effort for the reduction of armaments.

Against the widely expressed opposition to this action, this policy persists and tends to involve a series of Mediterranean countries into a confrontation which runs contrary to their national interests and to world peace.

In spite of many local wars promoted by the imperialist forces, the peace-loving people and governments were able to avoid a major confrontation, and to consolidate independent development toward progress and peaceful co-existence. Yet the escalation created by the imperialists threatens this peaceful development and endangers the achievements accomplished by the developing countries all over the world.

In the Mediterranean, the imperialists increase their military aggressive presence by providing Israel and Turkey with vast amounts of armaments. They are trying to complete their military encirclement with a chain of bases in Italy, Crete and the so-called British sovereign military bases in Cyprus. This poses a threat to the Socialist countries and the progressive regimes in the area. The military concentrations and threats against the progressive countries of the area, particularly, the Jamahiriya, Democratic Yemen and Algeria were strongly condemned.

Their target is the control of the Arab oil and the communication potentialities of the region. They reached the point of preparing contingency plans and task forces to capture the oil sources in the Gulf area.

To achieve their plans, they have to smash the progressive forces in the region and especially the Palestinian Revolution,

which is the permanent catalyst for progressive developments and to establish maniable regimes.

The Camp David agreement and the treaty between Egypt and Israel aim at consolidating this control.

The, participants expressed concern at the aggressive plans aimed at striking at the Iranian Revolution, and destabilizing the progressive countries in the area, particularly Democratic Yemen, the People's Republic of Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Madagascar.

It becomes the urgent duty of the peace-loving, progressive forces to consolidate a wide, strong front to defeat the imperialist designs, to eliminate the imperialist bases and turn the Mediterranean to an area of peace with the people as masters of their national resources and their destiny.

The participants welcome the Soviet proposal of withdrawing Soviet and U.S. nuclear-armed submarines and naval forces from the area and turning the Mediterranean into a nuclear-free zone and resolved to press US and NATO and other nuclear powers to accept and implement this.

Immediate implementation of the Helsinki Mediterranean Document was urged by all participants. In this respect AAPSO decided to collaborate with Permanent 'Secretariat of the Mediterranean Socialist Parties Conference for cooperation among the progressive forces in their anti-imperialist struggle to promote economic, social, cultural and military cooperation in the Mediterranean to change this sea of war into a zone of peace and cooperation.

The Conference pledged full support for the struggle of the Palestinian people under the PLO, their only legitimate leadership and their right for return, self-determination and establishing an independent Palestinian state.

It expresses its solidarity with the struggle of the Cypriot people for an urgent end of military occupation, against the artificial division of Cyprus, for the immediate implementation of the UN

resolutions, for a free, non-aligned, territorially integral, independent Cyprus and the elimination of the military bases.

It supports the struggle of the people of Lebanon under the leadership of the Patriotic Movement against Israeli aggression and all efforts at dividing the country.

It expresses its solidarity with the struggle of the people of Sahara under the Polisario for independence and self-determination.

The Conference appeals to all the people of the Mediterranean to coordinate their efforts to defeat the imperialist designs and put an end to their presence in the region.

The Conference adopted a plan of action, for the implementation of its resolutions and calls upon all affiliated forces to work systematically for its fulfillment.

The Conference recommends the establishment of an AAPSO Centre for International Cooperation, in Malta.

The Mediterranean must be free of U.S. hegemony and must become an area of peace and progress.

International Conference On Peace and Security in Asia*
7th-8th July 1986
Bangalore - India
Resolution On
The Relationship Between Disarmament And Development

The International Conference On Peace and Security in Asia held in Bangalore, India, on 7 -8 July 1986 deeply conscious of the close relationship between disarmament and development, considering that the present world situation is characterised, on the one hand, by the arms race especially the nuclear arms race which has been unprecedentedly escalated and even brought from the earth to outer space by the Reagan administration, and, on the other, by hunger and poverty in developing countries which could be overcome even by a few percent of the amount of money so far spent for the production of armaments - the struggle of the world people, particularly the people in Asia and other developing countries for conventional and nuclear disarmament not only contributes to averting a nuclear war which is threatening the very existence of mankind, but also creates conditions for the release of funds to combat privation and backwardness among the majority of the world population.

Strongly condemns the spiralling arms race initiated by the United States and its allies, particularly the U.S. -sponsored programme of "Star Wars".

Supports the comprehensive and constructive proposals made by the Soviet Union to free mankind from nuclear weapons by the

* AAPSO Publications (No.139).

year 2000.

Supports the resolution of the UN General Assembly on the prevention of the arms race in space, which was only opposed by the United States, and calls upon nuclear powers to concentrate efforts upon peaceful exploration of space for the benefit of humanity, to freeze development, production, accumulation and deployment of nuclear arms and to sign a nuclear test ban treaty as an initial and necessary step conducive to general disarmament,

Calls on the permanent members of the UN Security Council to cut their military budgets at least by 10% as proposed by the Soviet Union so as to use it for the economic and social advancement of developing countries.

In view of the aggravation of the general economic situation in developing countries mainly due to the heavy debt burden imposed on them by developed countries, the participants in the Conference appeal to the peoples and governments in Asia and the Pacific region to take suitable and resolute measures to use properly their scarce financial, scientific and material resources and to curb expenditure on militarisation and armaments, thus enabling themselves to solve vital and acute economic problems of their respective countries,

To control the activities of the TNCs and military - industrial complexes and prevent them from extracting super profits from developing countries and ensure economic sovereignty and independence and full control of natural resources so as to create conditions for national economic development free of foreign interference,

And to make active contributions to the establishment of a New International Economic Order by means of reducing economic dependence on imperialist powers and promoting economic cooperation among developing countries and with the socialist community.

Let's work together for the success of the UN Conference on Disarmament and Development which is due to be held in 1987.

International Conference For Peace And Development In Africa*
24th - 26th September 1986
Brazzaville

The Brazzaville Declaration

The delegates of governments and public opinion organizations, taking part in Brazzaville, from September 24 to 26, 1986, in the works of the International Conference on Peace, Disarmament, Solidarity and Development, jointly organized by the National Committee on the International Year of Peace of the People's Republic of Congo, WPC and AAPSO, in the context of the activities of 1986 proclaimed by the UN on International Year of Peace, solemnly declare the following:

1- The leit-motif of the International Year of Peace, namely, «To Saveguard Peace and Guarantee the Future of Humanity», has been the major preoccupation of the Conference;

2- Certain of the unreserved support of all social sectors of continent, and the determination of African peoples to translate like hundreds of millions of human beings on this planet their profound aspirations into a happy and peaceful life;

The happy coincidence of the Brazzaville conference taking place at a moment when H.E. Denis SASSOU NGUESSO, President of the People's Republic of Congo and President of OAU, is participating in the UN deliberations and in such capacities is an eloquent proof to the 41st UN General Assembly that Africa is fully among the potential powers which could and

* AAPSO Publications (No.136).

must repuduate war;

3- The OAU policy is based on the fundamental principles of peace, independence and non-alignment designed to establish a durable peace in the world and the struggle for national liberation;

4- On such bases, the delegates to the International Conference for Peace, Disarmament, Solidarity and Development in Africa convening in Brazzaville, commit themselves to work for the realization of a nuclear free Africa, to step-up the struggle for a rapid and radical eradication of the criminal regime of Apartheid and the necessary restoration of a democratic and non-racial regime in South Africa;

- To put a decisive end to the brutal aggressions of Pretoria on the sovereign and independent neighbouring states, in general, on Angola in particular.

- To accelerate Namibia's immediate accession to independence, under the leadership of SWAPO, the sole and authentic vanguard of the struggle.

- To increase our moral, material and military support of the ANC of South Africa, SWAPO of Namibia, and the Front-Line states by particularly contributing to the special fund for the struggle against Apartheid set up by the 8th NAM Summit.

- To step-up the pressure campaign on Pretoria's allies for the enforcement of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the racist regime of Pretoria.

5- With respect to development in its economic and financial aspects, the African states have been subjected to repeated economic shocks, ant have taken credits which have considerably increased their debt burden;

Such heavy debts constitute to-day a serious handicap which seriously compromises the changes of development;

6- Demanding of a hundred nations to produce basically to meet their foreign debt payments, does not constitute social peace and justice;

7- Hence, it is imperative that a new economic more equitable world order be set up, to saveguard peace;

8- The delegates believe that Humanity has to make to-day a decisive and urgent choice. It should either co-operate and realize accelerated progress in peace or opt for division, discord, and self-destruction;

9- In this respect, the delegates salute the policy of the USSR designed to halt the arms race; and support its different proposals on peace and its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests, supported by all the progressive peace-loving forces worldwide. They call on the USA and other nuclear powers to accept these proposals;

10- The delegates to the Conference on Peace, Disarmament, Solidarity and Development in Africa, held in Brazzaville from 24 - 26 September, 1986, in the context of the International Year for Peace, solemnly commit themselves to spare no effort ensure a durable peace and to abide by the purposes and principles of the OAU and UN Charters;

11- The Conference recommends to the ASDR and Morocco to implement the International Peace Plan set forth in OAU Resolution 104/AGH and UN Resolution 40/50;

12- And, declare themselves convinced that the positive balance sheet of the International Year of Peace will advance Humanity on the road to peace, justice and progress.

The International Conference For Denuclearization, Peace And Anti-imperialist Solidarity In Asian-Pacific Region*
24th - 26th September 1987
Pyongyang - DRK

Communique

The International Conference For Denuclearisation, Peace and Anti-imperialist Solidarity in the Asia-Pacific Region was held in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from 24 to 26 September, 1987.

6l delegations from 45 countries and 11 International Organisations attended the conference.

The participants at the conference received in great emotion the inspiring congratulatory message sent to the conference by the great leader of the Korean people His Excellency Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which highlights the cardinal issues related to peace, security and denuclearisation in the Asia-Pacific region.

The participants discussed in detail the strategy of imperialism, particularly that of US imperialism in the Asia-Pacific region in all its aspects as an integral part of their global strategy of war and aggression.

They expressed their serious concern at the exploitation of the natural and other resources and man-power of the region by the Western monopolies and transnational corporations.

The delegates were of the view that in order to advance their

* AAPSO Publications (No.139).

political and economic interests, US imperialism and its allies are intensifying their military activities, on an alarming scale, in the entire region of Asia and the Pacific - with large US military bases - the Clark air base and the Subic Bay naval base in the Philippines, the military bases and installations in Japan, South Korea and the Gulf, the Rapid Deployment Force, Central Command and US and NATO fleets in the Gulf, the Diego Garcia nuclear base of US government and other imperialist bases in the Indian Ocean.

The delegates were of the view that the US administration is subreptitiously trying to extend the arm of NATO to the East by various dubious means. To this end the United States is accelerating its attempt to complete the US-Japan-south Korea tripartite alliance. The growing militarisation of Japan, far exceeding the limit stipulated by the Japanese Constitution, Japan's partnership in the community of "industrialised West", the joint annual military exercises by Japan and the United States, the dumping of nuclear weapons in south Korea, joint south Korea - US military exercises involving hundreds of thousands of troops from both sides, mobilisation of US 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th Fleets in the Pacific - all these, according to the delegates, are aimed at building up this military alliance.

The delegates expressed their serious apprehension at the turning of the Korean peninsula into the most dangerous seat of nuclear war in the Asian-Pacific region due to the US nuclear build-up war provocations.

The delegates deplored that the Pacific islands are being used by the imperialist powers as the testing sites of nuclear weapons and the dumping ground of nuclear waste in spite of repeated protest not only by the Pacific island states but also by Australia, New Zealand and other countries.

The delegates expressed their serious concern at the increasing nuclear proliferation in the region. Israel has already

joined the western nuclear club. It has acquired developed sophisticated of nuclear device with the help of the US government and has now joined, together with another Asian country Japan, the US "Stars War" project. The delegates were of the opinion that US imperialism wants to retain its dominant role in the region with the help of such surrogates and, therefore, extends to them all possible military assistance.

The delegates condemned the continued meddling of the US administration in the affairs of Asia-Pacific region.

The participants expressed their indignation at the overt and covert methods employed by imperialism and their allies to destabilise those countries of Asia and the Pacific which refuse to accept the dictate of US imperialism, decline to become a willing accomplice of US Global Strategy and adhere to the policy of non-alignment, world peace and anti-imperialism. India is one of their main targets in this game. Fiji has already become a victim because the democratically elected government wanted to change the pro-west stance and decided to join the non-aligned community. The Acquino government in the Philippines has already faced five coup attempts. Afghanistan is being sought to be destabilised by US imperialism and reactionary forces who are offering generous assistance to the counter revolutionaries in the form of money and sophisticated weapons. Syria and Lebanon are constantly facing the threat of destabilization by US imperialism. All these, the delegates felt, are the various aspects of the imperialist policy in the Asia-Pacific regions.

The delegates took note of initiatives and proposals for ensuring peace and security of the region as against the imperialist plots hatched in the area. They recorded the appreciation of the positive initiatives made by Asian and Pacific countries and by the Soviet Union in Vladivostok for ending the arms race and withdrawing all nuclear weapons and imperialist armed forces from the region and turning it into a nuclear-free

zone and peace zone.

The delegates strongly felt that the countries of Asia and Pacific region must not any longer allow the imperialist powers to treat them as their reserves. Inheritors of many ancient civilisations and culture, having glorious traditions of anti-imperialist struggles - Asia has the unique distinction of defeating the biggest imperialist power - Asia is capable of combating the machinations of imperialism and deciding their destiny themselves.

The delegates felt that the democratic and progressive forces in Asia and the Pacific must intensify their struggle for peace and security of the region. With this end in view, the delegates felt that some urgent measures should be adopted:

- All nuclear weapons must be withdrawn from Asia and the Pacific, Asia and Pacific region must not be allowed to be testing sites and dumping grounds of nuclear weapons. No war-ships carrying nuclear weapons must be allowed to call on ports of any country in the region.
- All foreign military bases in the region must be dismantled and foreign troops be withdrawn. No country in the area should allow base facilities to foreign powers.
- All US troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea must be withdrawn and all military bases be dismantled.
- The constructive proposals of the government of Afghanistan for a political solution and for national reconciliation should be given all support.
- Public opinion should be mobilised to stop the most tragic war in recent times - the Iran-Iraq war. All warships of the United States and NATO countries and their armed forces must be withdrawn from the Gulf.
- The Indian Ocean must be converted into a zone of peace.

The participants at the Pyongyang Conference, while concentrating on the questions of denuclearisation and disarmament in Asia and the Pacific region, were conscious that

peace and security in the region can not be viewed in isolation from the international security. They, therefore, demanded the stopping of arms race, reiterated their determination to intensify their efforts for complete abolition of nuclear weapons of all kinds.

They extended their full support to and solidarity with the struggling people of Palestine fighting under the leadership of PLO, the people of South Africa led by ANC, the people of Namibia led by SWAPO, the people of Saharawi led by POLISARIO. They expressed their solidarity with the Frontline States.

The conference supported the Syrian people's position of steadfastness, the Lebanese people in their anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist resistance for national unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The conference supported the holding of the International Conference on Peace in the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned including the PLO, the on1y legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The conference supported the struggle of the people of Cyprus to defend their national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In the same spirit of anti-imperialist solidarity, the conference welcomed the eleven point plan signed by the President of Guatemala, El-Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica to end the conflicts and to ensure peace in Central America, which asserts the right of Latin American countries to settle their problems themselves in spite of continuing provocation by the Reagan administration.

The delegates appealed to all anti-imperialist forces in Asia and the Pacific region to unite and fight together against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism to make Asia and the Pacific an area free from exploitation of trans-nationals, an area where imperialist machinations will no longer be permitted to divide the Asians and to make the entire Asia-Pacific region a zone of

peace, security and stability.

The participants felt that the process of dialogue that started with the Pyongyang conference should be continued. Seminars symposia, conferences and other forms of activities on the broadest scale to promote the cause of peace, security, understanding and cooperation should be organized, as far as possible, in the Asia-pacific region.

Disarmament And The Third World*
5th-7th December, 1989
Moscow - USSR

Final Communique

AAPSO held the 3rd Meeting of the Presidium Committee on Disarmament on the morrow of the Bush-Gorbachev Malta Summit which created promising opportunities for the disarmament global process. AAPSO activists, scientists, experts discussed the prospects for disarmament and social and economic development of the Third World in the new historical context as well as goals and forms of the activities of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization in the fields of disarmament and development under new conditions.

Transition from confrontation to dialogue and from tensions to detente is taking shape. The process of demilitarization is getting on strength. First steps have been made in the field of real disarmament. And there are good prospects for conventional and strategic weapons reduction treaties. Humanity has a strong chance to put an end to the ominous period of the Cold War, and start working on a new political order, based on respect for fundamental democratic principles, the authority of the United Nations, international cooperation for the eradication of poverty and underdevelopment for settling regional conflicts by political means and promoting social and economic progress of the developing countries in every possible way, including practical

* AAPSO Publications (No.150).

realization of the disarmament for development concept.

At the same time, it was noted that the current international situation is characterized by increasingly contradictory tendencies. So far, positive change in the international arena is not universal or irreversible. Still the nuclear deterrence doctrine, the plans to militarize space and develop new generations of weapons, the continuing interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states and use power politics, as well as non-military threats to security - the debt crisis, economic blackmail, hunger, poverty and under-development are posing serious threat to international security and challenging the positive results reached so far.

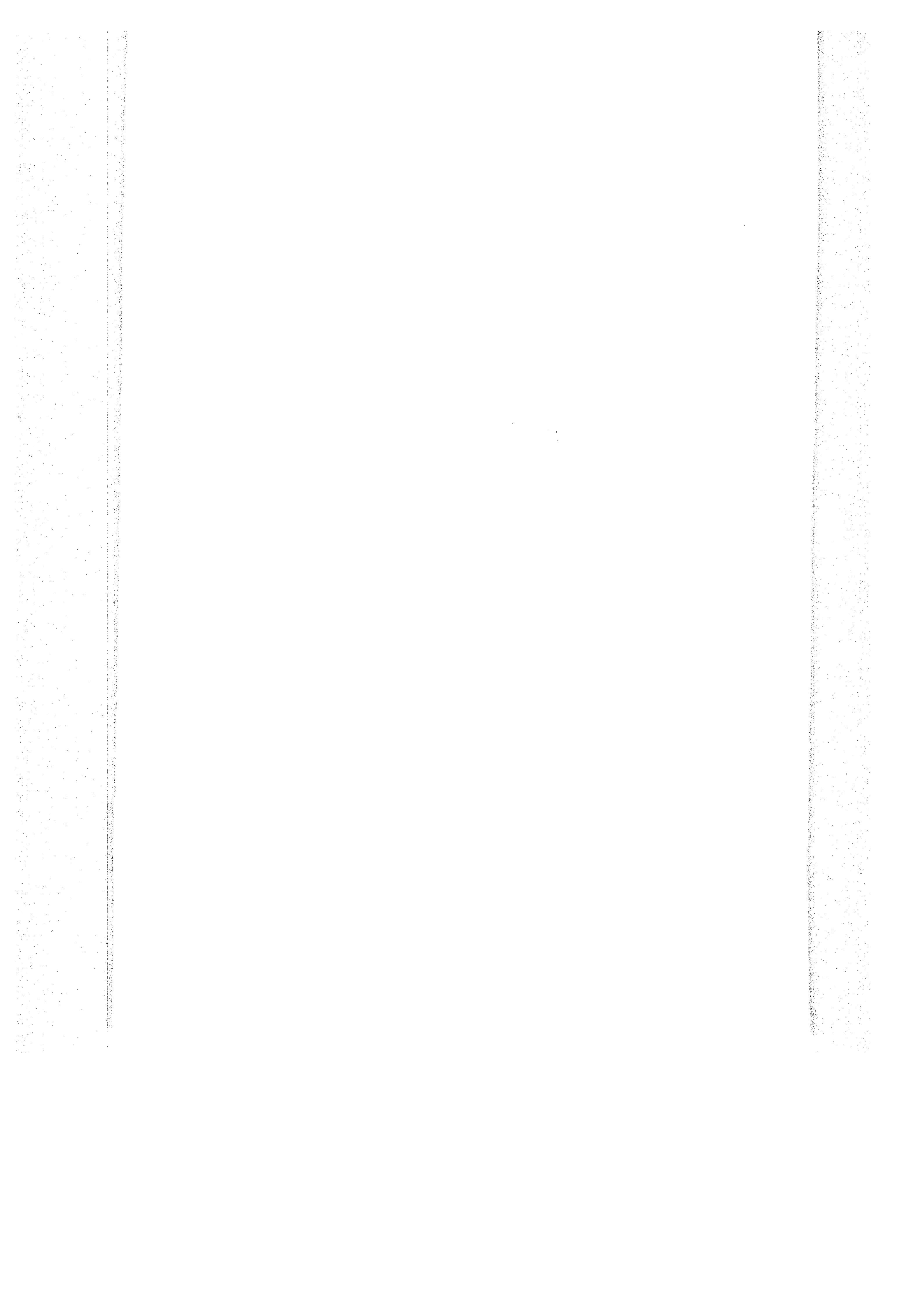
Issues of security, of stability, of ensuring that change does not adversely affect balance, that the situation does not get out of hand, are getting of paramount importance. Changes in the world have not yet spread on the Third World. Changes in the international climate provide the possibility and at the same time put to forefront regional issues, thus introducing serious elements of dis-balance. Disarmament in the North should not encourage attempts at channelling surplus weapons to the South.

The participants in the meeting believe that in the light of both promising developments and persisting challenges AAPSO should step up its peace-making activities and further consolidate its cooperation with other peace-loving forces so as to strengthen and promote positive change in the international arena. The participants offered specific proposals with the view to up-grade the activities of AAPSO in such issues as inter-relationship between disarmament and development conversion of military industries: nonproliferation of nuclear weapons; militarization of space settlement of regional conflicts in Asia and Africa; environmental protection and others.

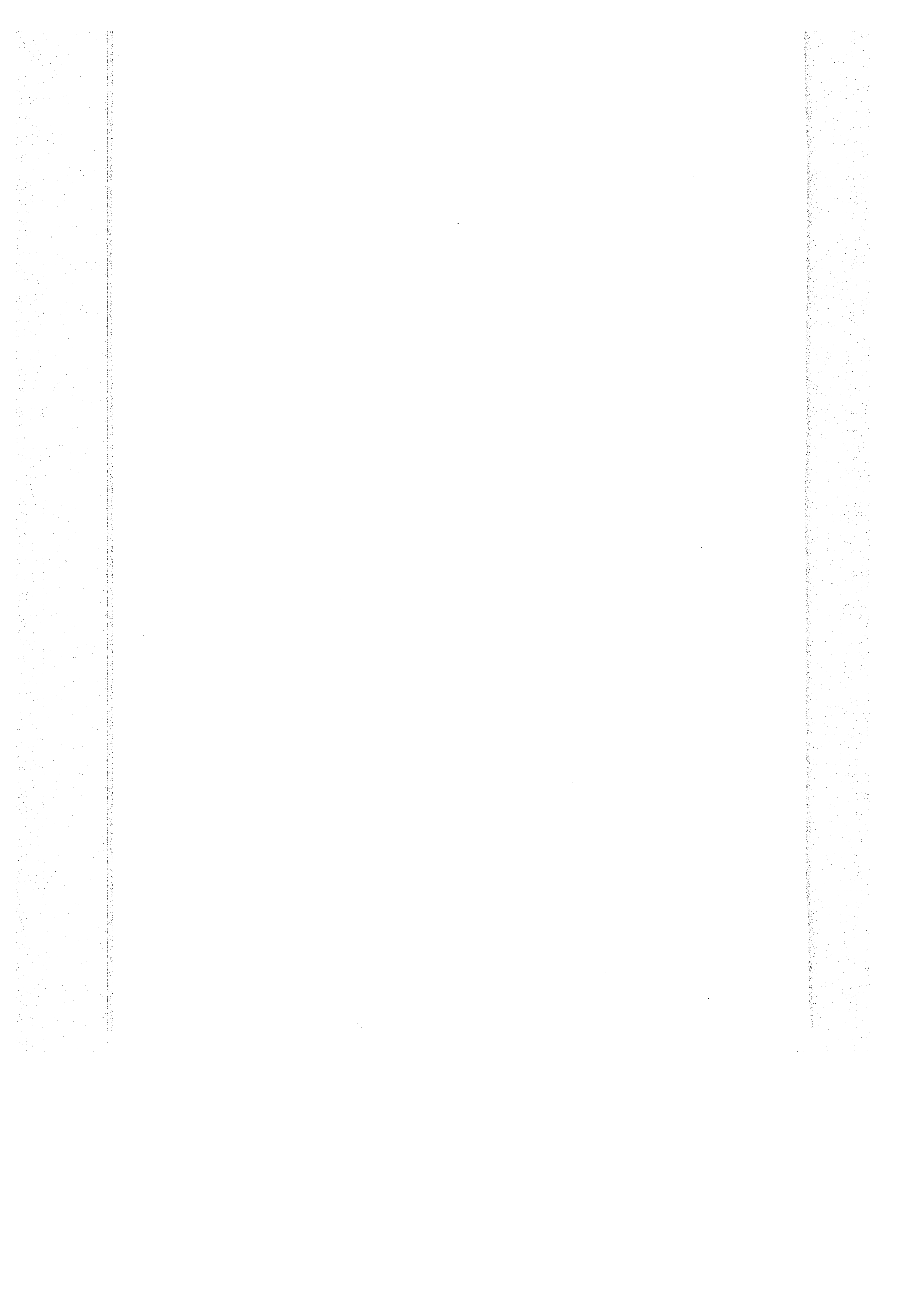
A key issue discussed at the meeting was the concept of nuclear weapon free zones. It was recommended that AAPSO should launch massive campaigns to further implement that

concept, particularly, the idea of a Nuclear Weapon Free Southern Hemisphere. It was also noted that AAPSO should increase its efforts for the removal of non-military threats to security, something that becomes ever more topical as the East-West tensions are going down.

The participants in the meeting expressed their gratitude to the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee for warm-hearted hospitality and to the experts that contributed substantially to the success of the deliberations.



Fourthly: Women



The Second Afro-Asian Women's Conference*
13th - 18th August 1972
Ulan Bator - Mongolia

General Declaration

We, the delegation of women's organizations in Afro-Asian countries meeting in Ulan Bator, the capital of the People's Republic of Mongolia, from August 13th to 18th, 1972, in the second Afro-Asian Women's Conference have discussed per participation of women of the two continents in the struggle for liberation, independence and peace and their contribution to the national, economic, social and cultural development.

We note with great satisfaction that since the first Afro-Asian Women's Conference held in Cairo in 1961, the role of women has expanded markedly in the struggle for national liberation, in the battle of economic and social construction and in the fight for the establishment of a permanent and durable peace. The Conference also notes that thanks to their positive and decisive role the women of Africa and Asia have been able to achieve significant success in their efforts to secure her political, economic, social and cultural rights in their respective countries.

The movement of Afro-Asian women has been enhanced and strengthened by the continual development and consolidation of the movement of Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity of which it forms an integral part. It has also been strengthened by the solidarity with other women's movements in which Afro-Asian women

* AAPSO Publications (No.51).

participate and play an important part, which serves the purpose of further developing and consolidating the unity of all anti-imperialist forces in the world.

The liberation struggle has forged Afro-Asian women into a great force and has been the first step on the path of their emancipation. The Afro-Asian women are conscious that all problems of significance for their people are their concern and they cannot be solved effectively without their active participation.

But our role in the liberation struggle does not and should not end with the winning of independence. In fact the political liberation marks the end of one stage and the beginning of new ones, that is, the stages of progressive socio-economic transformations, and the achievement of economic independence. In this new stage we play, together with our menfolk, a great role. Neither construction of a new life, nor economic development is possible without our involvement in the process. We constitute part - and an important part at that - of the immense human resources of our nations. It is through this active participation that women's creative abilities are revealed. It is through this active participation that women win for themselves genuine equality both in society and in family.

But in our struggle for liberation and for socio - economic and cultural construction, we are not isolated. We play your role not only as women but as full members of the society that should recognize our right to equality and justice, and at the same time our duties as equal citizens.

We also believe that the struggle for national liberation and the battle for peace and construction are indivisible and that any success forced in one is a victory for the other. We also believe that the strengthening of the position of women means the consolidation of the forces of liberation and peace. Women of Africa and Asia are an integral part of their respective peoples and within this perspective we call upon the peoples and governments

of Africa and Asia to exert all efforts so that women can achieve their inalienable rights in all fields, political, economic, social and cultural.

Having discussed the urgent international issues of the contemporary world we, participants of the Conference, note that despite the significant victories won by the anti-imperialist forces, imperialism is not going to lay down its arms. This is vividly reflected in the aggressive war unleashed by the United States against the peoples of Indochina, in the continuing brazen aggression of Zionist forces of Israel against the Arab countries and the annexation of Arab territories, in the colonial wars waged by Protugal and other colonialists against liberation movements and independent African countries, in the policy of apartheid and racism in Southern Africa, in the manoeuvres of neo-colonialism against independent States of Asia and Africa.

We declare our active solidarity with the heroic struggle of the peoples of Indochina aggression of U.S. imperialism and corrupt puppet regimes and demand that the U.S. imperialists immediately withdraw from Indochina and accept the solution of this problem on the basis of the well-known principles put forward by the genuine representatives of the peoples of Indochina.

We call upon all people of goodwill to increase support to the just struggle of the Arab peoples for the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression and for the restoration of all the national rights and the right for self-determination to the Arab people of Palestine.

We call upon sisters throughout the world to increase their contribution to the struggle to eliminate the last remnants of colonial rule and racist regimes.

We emphasize the necessity to support all Afro-Asian countries which are working to intensify the participation of women in the fight against neo-colonialism, which is one of the main enemies of the national liberation movement today, for the consolidation of

the national economies of the independent Afro-Asian countries, for progressive socio-economic transformations in the interests of the peoples. We consider it an important task to render all-round support to the countries of socialist orientation in Africa and Asia, the vanguard of the contemporary national liberation movement.

The unity and solidarity of the Afro-Asian peoples, their cooperation, and strengthening of their friendly ties with the socialist countries, are the important and necessary pre-requisites for new successes in this struggle.

Inspired by decisive victories won by the national liberation movements, to which Afro-Asian women have made a significant contribution, we declare our firm determination to give all our energy for the sake of further consolidation of militant solidarity and anti-imperialist unity of all progressive forces which is the guarantee of the final victory over imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and reactionary forces, in the name of freedom, prosperity, universal security and just peace for our peoples, and the happiness of our children.

The Afro-Asian Symposium On Social Development Of Women* 8th - 10th March 1975 Alexandria - ARE

General Statement

The Afro-Asian Symposium on the Social Development of Women was convened at the invitation of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) during the period from March 8 to 10, 1973 in Alexandria, the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Symposium was attended by 151 delegates women and men representing 64 women organizations. Solidarity Committees in Africa and Asia, as well as from international anti-imperialist organizations, and international and regional organizations of Western Europe and the Socialist countries.

The Symposium records with pride the constant growth of the women's role in the struggle for national liberation and achievement of national independence and sovereignty as well as their valuable contribution in the fields of social and economic development and their endeavours to establish justice, equality and world peace.

While taking pride in this development, the Symposium is confident that it is a struggle in which women and men take part, side by side, in the just struggle for liberation and peace, on the same footing whether in effort and sacrifice, creative initiatives, or in rights and responsibilities.

Women are an integral part of the society, their social and

* AAPSO Publications (No.66).

political struggle is primarily the struggle of Society at large for progress and liberation, for a life of prosperity and peace and one free of oppression, exploitation and discrimination in all its forms, including discrimination between women and men.

The Symposium hails growing efforts to make of the year 1975 International Women's Year, effectively, and commends the part played in this respect, by AAPSO, its Permanent Secretariat and the Women's section.

The year 1975 is the year marking the 30th anniversary of the historical victory of humanity against the fascist forces of aggression as well as marks the 20th anniversary of the memorable Bandung Conference which laid the foundations of Afro-Asian Solidarity. Is also the year of Africa when she is entering the final stage of the liquidation of colonialism with the proclamation of the independence of Mozambique, Angola, Sao Toms and Principe after Guinea Bissau become an independent and sovereign state. The Symposium, while paying tribute to these outstanding victories, urges all women of Africa, Asia and the rest of the world to double their efforts side by side with all the progressive and social forces for the consolidation of independence and for solidarity with these countries in the task of reconstruction, social, economic and cultural build up.

At the same time, the Symposium pays tribute to women in South Africa. Namibia and Zimbabwe struggling for the liquidation of colonialism and racial discrimination through the over-throw of the fascist colonialist white minority regime and to establish majority rule. The Symposium calls upon the international community to intensify the rejection and isolation of the Pretoria and Salisbury regimes including expulsion of former from U.S. and to increase political and material support to the national liberation movements.

The Symposium supports the struggle of the peoples of Somali Coast, Eritrea, Seychelles, the Comoros Islands, Cebta Mehla and

the Spanish dominated Sahara for liberty, self-determination and unity. It supports as well all other African and Asian peoples struggling against imperialism and colonialism.

Homage also goes to the women and peoples of independent African countries and calls upon all international progressive forces to support their struggle for development and the preservation of political, economic and cultural independence.

The Symposium fully supports the struggle of the people of Cyprus for the preservation of their territorial integrity, the withdrawal of all foreign troops, return of all refugees to their homes, demilitarisation of Cyprus and the consolidation of the legal authority in the country, under the leadership of Archbishop Markarios.

The Symposium condemns the expansionist colonial Israeli entity based on aggression and racism supported by imperial forces. It also pays tribute to the victories of the Arab people who shattered the myth of Israeli superiority and proclaims its support for the struggle of these peoples for the liberation of their territories. It backs as well the just struggle of the Palestinian people for the liberation of all their lawful right to free self-determination on their land.

The Symposium pays homage to the struggle of the Palestinian people and their steadfastness in face of all forms of opposition, torture and extermination exercised by the Israeli authorities in the occupied territories. Tribute particularly goes to the struggle of the Palestinian Women as evidence by the presence of hundreds of women in the prison and concentration camps of the occupation authorities. The Symposium calls upon all progressive forces the world over to continue their support for this snuggle and recognized the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legal representative of the Palestinian people while seeking the release of all political detainees in the Israeli prisons.

The Symposium affirms its support for the struggle of the

people of the Arab Gulf and Oman and demands the release of detainees in Oman, Bahrain and Arab Gulf.

The Symposium warmly welcomes the great victories recorded by the Vietnamese people in their struggle for national salvation, in which women have played an important role. It condemns the serious violations of the Paris Agreement by the United States and the Saigon administration and declares its total support to the South Vietnamese People's struggle to demand that the United States put an end to its military involvement and interference in South Vietnam, that Nguyen Van Tnieu and his clique - obstacle to the implementation of the Paris Agreement - be overthrown and an administration which favours peace rational concord and is ready to observe the Agreement be set up in Saigon. The Symposium hails the victories recorded in all aspects by the South Vietnamese people under the leadership of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisicual Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, the only genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people.

The Symposium hails the resounding victories attained by the heroic Cambodian women and people under the leadership of the National United Front of Cambodia and the Roval Government of National Union. It demands that the United States immediately steps its military involvement and aid to the Lon Nol clique, and let the Cambodian people be free to build an indecident, peaceful, neutral, democratic and prosperous Cambodia.

The Symposium greets the great victories recorded by the Lao women and people under the leadership of the Lao Patriotic Front in the implementation of the Vientiane Agreement aimed at building a peaceful, independent, democratic, unified and prosperous country.

The Symposium calls for continued support for the Japanese people and hails the Japanese progressive women's movement struggling against American military presence in Japan as well as

against expandionistic Japanese monopoly capital that is controlled by US imperialism and against attempts lo reactivate the fascist militarism in this crucial region.

The, Symposium supports the just struggle of the Korean people for the reunification of their country on a democratic basis and without any intervention by any foreign power after forcing the withdrawal of the aggressive American imperialist forces from South Korea, in accordance with the three principles and the five point proposition for the independent and peaceful reunification of the homeland.

The Symposium deplores imperialist subversive activities as represented in the establishment of military bases in Diego Garcia, and the aggressive manoeuvres in the Indian Ocean. It stresses the need to intensify struggle against imperialist military bases everywhere in Africa, Asian and the world over.

The Symposium stresses the importance of good neighbourly relations and economic and cultural cooperation for peace and security. In this context the symposium condemns the U.S imperialists for supplying arms to certain regime which create tension and conflict. It is in the interest of all countries to create conditions of peace and security in Asia by collective efforts or all progressive forces of Asia and the world.

The Symposium condemns the barbaric acts of the fascist military junta in Chile. It pays tribute to the heroic women of Chile who participated in the valiant struggle of their people for the restoration of democracy in Chile. The Symposium demands the release of all Chilean nationals under detention.

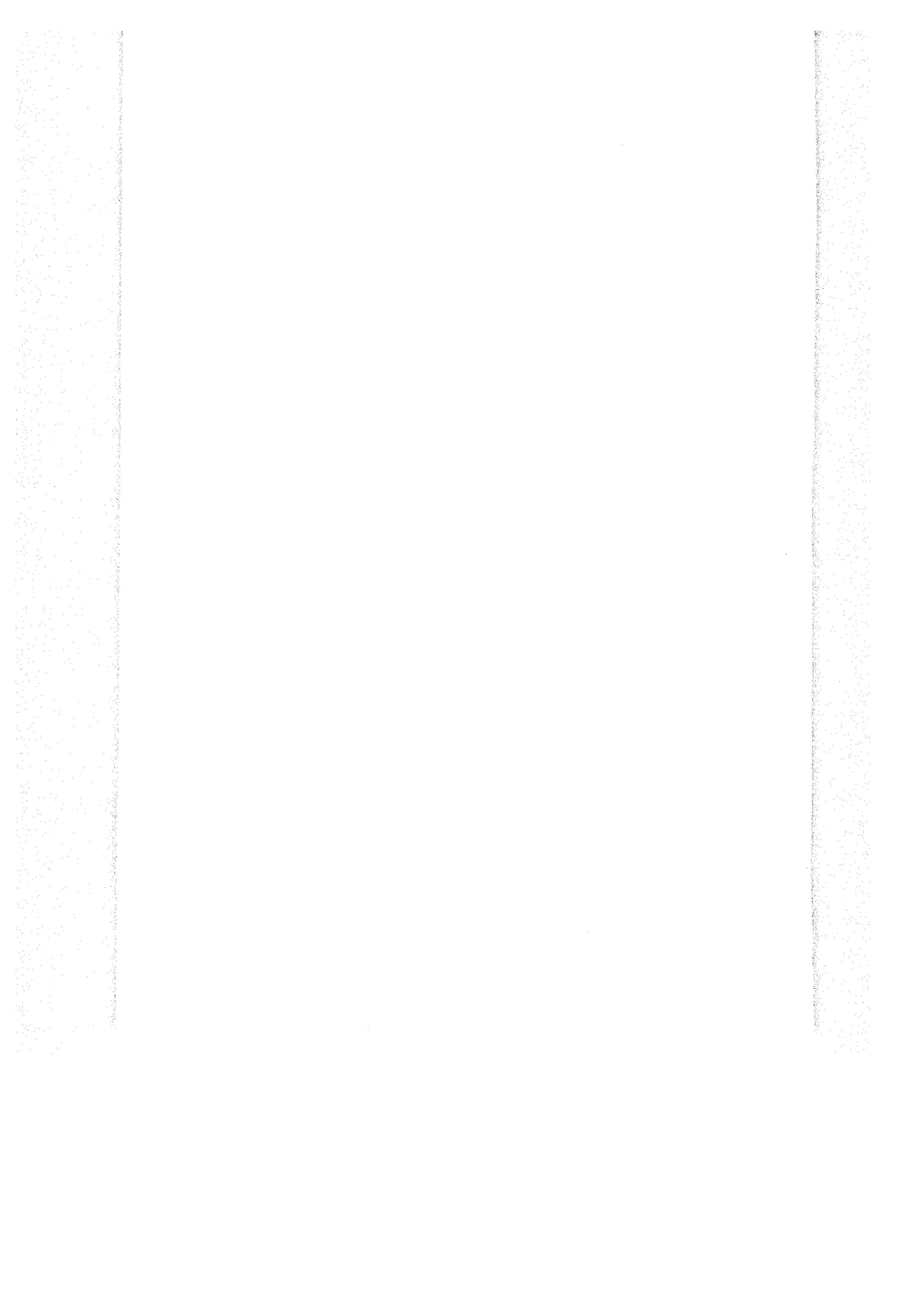
The Symposium supports the struggle of the people of Puerto-Rico.

The Symposium supports the struggle of the people of the developing countries to be master of their natural resources. It is in this context that the Symposium condemns the threat made by United States Government to oil producing countries.

The Symposium affirms the necessity of enhancing unity of struggle among national and liberation forces in Africa, Asia and Latin America and democratic, progressive and socialist forces in Western and socialist countries. It lauds the effective and positive solidarity of all socialist forces with the world national liberation movement and the progressive women movement everywhere.

The Symposium hails the mounting drive of the forces of peace, liberation and relaxation of international tension. The Symposium calls for expanding the scope of cooperation fostering it among democratic movement, non-governmental organizations, the Organization of African Unity and its liberation committee, the WIDF, the African Women's Conference and the United Nations and its specialized agencies with a view to consolidating world anti-imperialist front, and achieving victory for the struggle for freedom, justice and world peace, human dignity, welfare of society, happiness of the new generation and maintaining the bright aspect of human civilization.

Fifthly: New International Order Of Information And The Role Of Mass Media



AAPSO Conference On A New International Order Of Information*
29th November – 2nd December 1984
Kabul - Afghanistan

Final Communique

At the invitation of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO), on cooperation with the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization of D.R.A., the AAPSO Conference on the New International Information Order was held in Kabul, Afghanistan, from 29 November to 2 December 1985.

On the 29th of November, representatives of Solidarity Committees, Liberation Movements, international, governmental, non-governmental organizations besides different personalities active in the field of communication, from all continents of the world, warmly received the important inaugural speech delivered by Comrade Bebrak Karmal, General Secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and President of the Revolutionary Council.

The participants stood in silence to pay tribute to Mrs. Indira Gandhi, chairperson of NAM at the inaugural session. A special meeting was held on 2nd of December, 1984, where speakers representing different regions of the world paid homage to Mrs. Gandhi.

In the first Working Session, the participants elected as Pre-sident of the Conference, D. Anahita Ratibzad, member of the Political Bureau of the PDPA, CC and President of Peace,

* AAPSO Publications (No.154).

Soli-darity and Friendship Organization of the DRA (PSFO).

The participants held plenary sessions where they discussed several papers dealing with:

a. Using the media wherever possible as an instrument for Peace, Friendship, Cooperation and Development;

b. The Western Information Media as a tool for cold war, misinformation, aggression and subversion against sovereignty and independence;

c. Transnationals' attempts to monopolize information and technology, is a serious obstacle in the way of decolonization of information;

d. Pernicious influence of cultural invasion;

e. Establishment of information system in the developing countries free from the grip of the West. Implementation of de-colonization of information programme by the Non-Aligned Movement;

f. Vocational training and formation of cadres in the field of information is the key precondition of development of mass media in the developing countries;

g. Role and contribution of mass organizations to the estab-lishment of the New International Information Order.

The participants showed their determination to do their utmost to end the monopoly of the Western media to portray the governments and peoples of the Third World as savages or child-ren or indeed terrorists, if they did not accept the domination politically and economically of the major imperialist powers. They highlighted the great political importance of the question of international exchange of information, especially in the con-text of the «Communication explosion» and the uneven distribu-tion of its scientific and technological fruits, resulting in widening the gap between the developed and the developing countries in this field. Special emphasis was laid on information imperialism, the TNCs monopoly of mass media, and their influence on its de-velopment

and using their growing strength to subvert public opinion in the developing countries. Through their activities and influence, the Western monopolies of information in an arrogant and racist fashion pursue their policies of neo-colonialism and militarism. They cause great harm to the struggle of the peoples of the developing countries in their efforts to preserve their political independence and sovereignty and build up their independent economies. In doing so they also harm the interests of the broad masses in Western countries themselves.

The participants further underlined the correlation between independence, the development of newly independent countries with the decolonization of mass communications. Without such appropriate development of the mass media, social progress is im-possible today. However, such development depends on the socio--political options of the developing countries. Information inde-pendence will necessarily depend on the anti-imperialist, progres-sive policies that the given country follows in all fields of human activity.

The participants stressed that building independent mass media in the developing countries is too difficult, a task for each country to do alone. Cooperation among the developing countries in this sphere will help the realization of this task. It will also contribute greatly to the establishment of a New International Information Order. In this context the participants highly appre-ciated the steps taken by the Non-Aligned Movement and urged for more steps to reinforce cooperation among the Non-Aligned countries in order to achieve the lofty goals of decolonization and democratization of the Information system. The participants warned against imperialist cultural invasion which is a real threat to the values, cultural identity and the very independence of the developing countries.

The participants noted with appreciation the steps taken by UNESCO and the U.N. to support the just demands of the

devel-oping countries to establish a New International Information Or-der. They condemned the subversive actions of imperialist powers against the efforts of both UNESCO and the U.N. In this con-text they appealed to all nations to consider necessary measures in support of UNESCO which is being harassed by the threats of the U.S.A. and the U.K. to withdraw from this international organization.

The participants expressed their support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication = (IPDC) of the UNESCO and its efforts in promoting regional news agencies in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, i.e. PANA; FANA; OANA; ASIN; and ALASEI as well as national mass media systems in the developing countries. They shared the view that more financial, technical, and moral support should be directed to the IPDC, PANA, FANA, and OANA in all forms available including fellowships for journalists and communication experts.

The participants, in this context stressed the necessity, for the developing countries to decrease their dependence on the im-perialist countries by looking for alternative technologies and modern equipment and systems from friendly countries that support the just demand of more equitable distribution of information in the interest of all peoples.

In this context the participants stressed the fruitfulness and effectiveness of cooperation between developing countries and socialist countries as an example of mutually beneficial and equitable relations which help develop national independent information systems.

The participants highlighted the close connection between the establishment of a New International Information Order, the strengthening of World peace and the promoting of disarmament. A New Information Order ought to be a democratic progressive one that corresponds with the socio-political aspirations of all peoples and is directed against the imperialist hegemony, and its

aggressive schemas to subdue the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

That is why, the participants declared, it is necessary for all national, democratic and progressive forces to be highly alert to the manoeuvres of imperialist countries, foremost the U.S.A. which strongly resists any real change of the present state of af-fairs in the field of mass communication.

The participants drew the attention to the fact that unobstructed dissemination of information worldwide can be based only on the principles of respect for the national sovereignty of all states and non-interference in their internal affairs. Disseminated information should be truthful, objective and responsive to the requirements of peace, stability, cooperation, solidarity and pro-gress of mankind.

The participants called an all honest journalists the world over to stick to the ethics of their great humanitarian mission and obligations, so as to contribute to the strengthening of peace progress, and friendship among all peoples.

Finally, the participants stressed that the struggle for the establishment of a New International Information Order should not be confined to the efforts of governments and inter-governmental bodies. To ensure its success it should be a broad mass movement. All non-governmental organizations have an important role to play in this respect. In this context, the parti-cipants stressed the specific role played by progressive professional journalist organizations, especially the I.O.J.

The participants stressed the fact that AAPSO, owing to the nature of its composition of national committees, mostly based in developing countries, is expected to play a leading role in these efforts. They appreciated AAPSO's activities in the sphere of information and expressed their gratitude and thanks to the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization of D.R.A. for hosting this important Conference, and for providing it with all the necessary facilities which contributed to its success.

Role of Mass Media In The Solution of Regional Conflicts*
15th-16th September 1989
Kabul - Afghanistan

Final Report

An international seminar on the "Role of Mass Media in the Solution of Regional Conflicts" was held in Kabul on September 15th and 16th, 1989, representing 54 national and international organizations from 31 countries. The seminar was co-sponsored by the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization of Afghanistan and the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization.

The inaugural session was held on 15th September, 1989. In the session the message of President Dr. Najibullah to the participants was read out by H.E. Mr. Sarwar Mangal, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the Preparatory Committee.

A solemn meeting was held to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the restoration of Independence of Afghanistan, in which the main speech was given by H.E. Mr. Abdul Hamid Muhtat, vice-President of Republic of Afghanistan. Speeches were also given in that context by the representatives of AAPSO, Egypt. India, IOJ. Cyprus, Federal Republic of Germany and the Soviet Union. A minute of silence was observed in memory of the martyrs of the independence struggle of Afghanistan. Also messages were read by Pakistan AAPSO and WDF delegations.

After the election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, the

* AAPSO Publications (No.154).

Secretary General and the Rapporteur, altogether five meetings were held by the plenary session in which the representatives of 25 countries and international organizations gave their speeches on the topics of the Seminar.

The plenary session in its meeting held in the morning of September 16, 1989, approved the composition of the drafting committee headed by Mr. M. Farid Zarif, Vice-President U.N Association of Afghanistan.

During the two days of the Seminar the participants examined the various aspects of enhancing the effectiveness of the mass media in creating favourable grounds for complete removal of hot-beds of tension and for the solution of regional conflicts. They stressed that the solution of regional conflicts through diplomatic and peaceful methods will exert positive impact on the qualitative improvement of international relations and insurance of world peace and security.

The participants in the Seminar, whilst expressing satisfaction at the major positive changes in the political situation of the world especially in the relations between the two big powers whereby favourable grounds have been provided for removal of regional tensions by political means, dialogue and negotiations, expressed their deep concern over the continuation and even intensification of conflicts in certain regions of the world. They expressly stated that despite political and legal bases as well as important diplomatic actions involving the solution of these disputes there are hindrances and disruptiveness on the part of some countries.

The participants of the Seminar welcomed the peace talks between the forces involved in Kampuchea and voiced hope so that the problems of the Middle East and Palestine, Western Sahara, South Africa and Namibia, Korean Peninsula and Central America may be urgently settled on the basis of the resolutions of the United Nations Organization, Non-aligned Movement and Organization of African Unity.

The participants of the Seminar recalled that the signing of the Geneva Accords involving the issues around Afghanistan had engendered immense hope and optimism within the peace-loving forces of the world including realistic-minded mass media activists toward the termination of the bloodiest regional conflicts. They were meanwhile hopeful that this living, vital, practical example could and should be employed in removal of regional hot-beds of tension and conflicts in other parts of the world.

The participants in the Seminar, in their stay and objective observations in the republic of Afghanistan found that the Geneva Accords have as yet not been implemented on the part of Pakistan as one of the signatories and the United States of America as one of the guarantors of the Accords. The continuation of such a tense situation may have serious consequences for the cause of peace, security and stability in this sensitive and strategically important region and throughout the world as a whole, damaging the prestige of the United Nations Organization and the credibility and effectiveness of international treaties.

The participants of the Seminar called the Secretary General of the United Nations and Chairman of the Movement of the Non-aligned countries to exert efforts toward the full implementation by all the involved parties of the Geneva Accords and the resolution of the 43rd session of the United Nations General Assembly and to put an end to the Afghan People's painful ordeal. This in turn may prove effective in the realization of the most urgent, most fundamental aspiration of the human society including the United Nations. i.e., in ensuring international peace and security and preventing nuclear catastrophe as also in elevating the credibility of the United Nations.

In this connection the participants of the Seminar declared their support to the recent peace proposals of the Republic of Afghanistan set forth by Dr. Najibullah the country's President in the Ninth Session in Belgrade of the heads of state or government

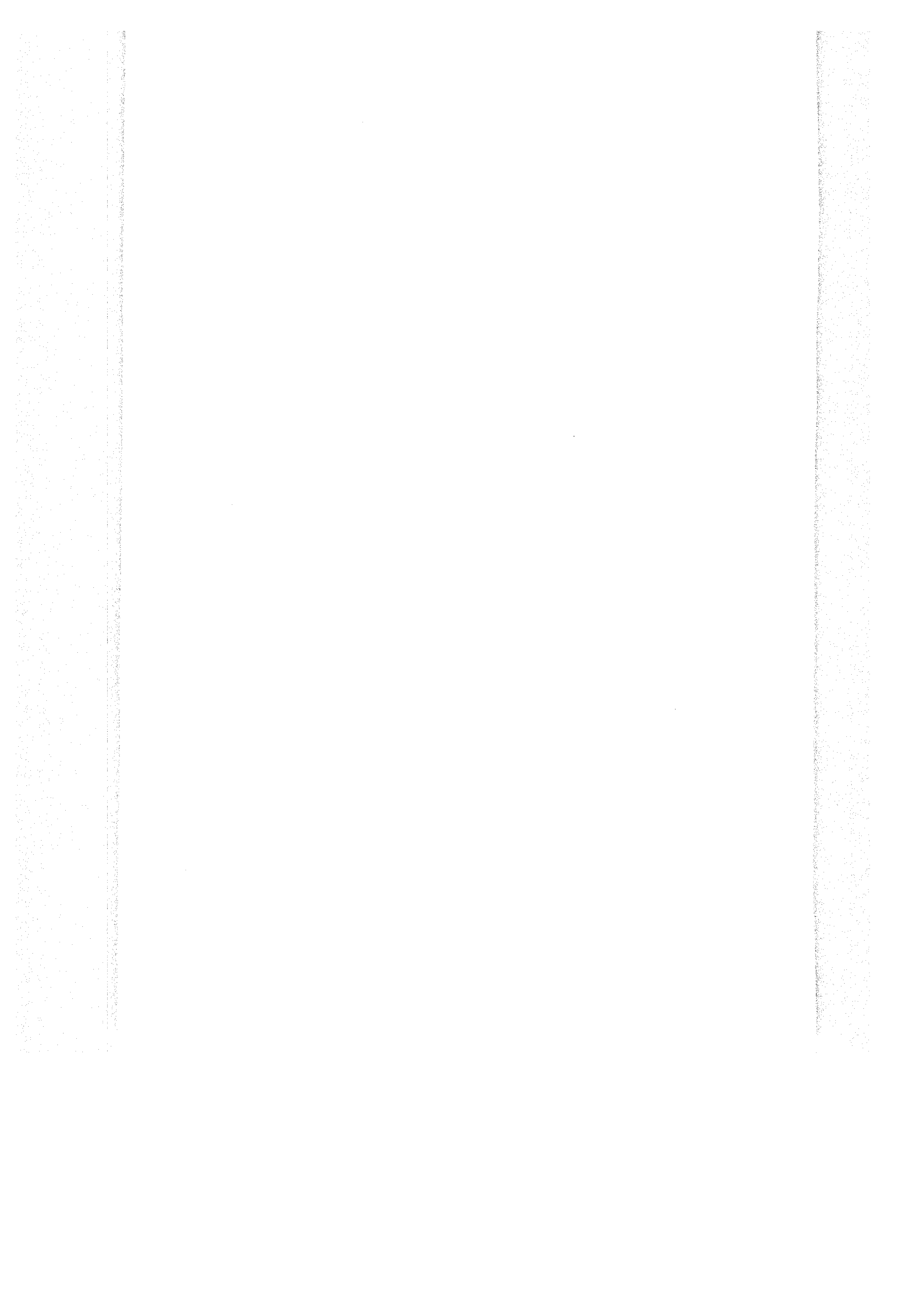
of the non-aligned countries.

The participants in the Seminar requested the United Nations Secretary General to embark on effective practical actions toward enhancing the role of the news agencies of the United Nations member countries toward the speedy solution of regional conflicts and bringing into being of a new international information order.

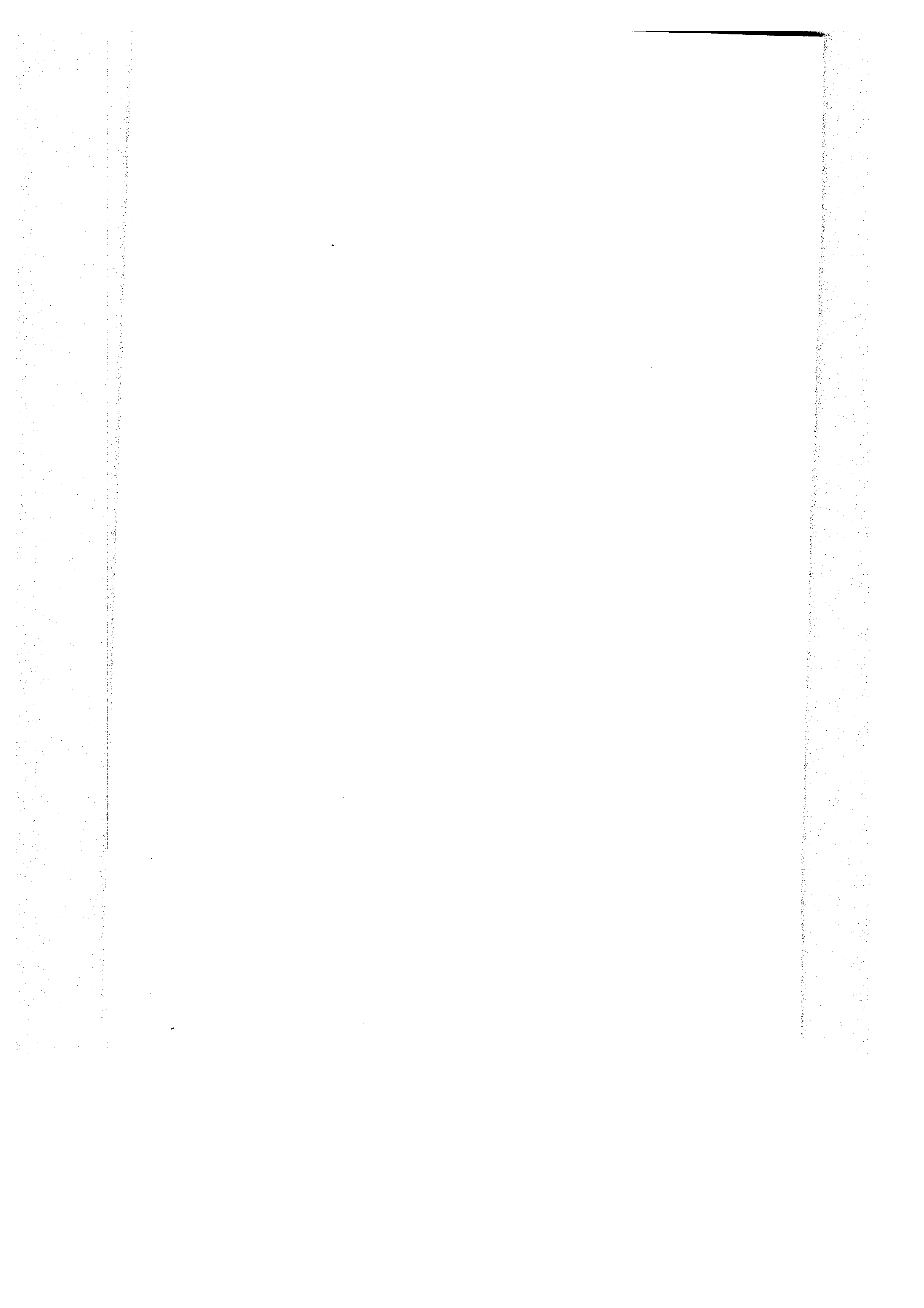
The participants in the Seminar adopted the following documents:

1. Message to the people of Afghanistan
2. Message to the journalists of the world
3. Message to the UN Secretary General
4. Message to the Chairman of NAM
5. Vote of thanks
6. Statement on Terroristic Actions against the civilian population of the cities of Afghanistan

The participants pledged to spare no efforts for the implementation of all the documents adopted.



Sixthly: Intellectual Issues



Clash Of Civilizations Or Dialogue Of Cultures?*
10th-12th March 1997
Cairo - Egypt

Final Report

There has been much discussion, recently, about the issue of civilizations and cultures all over the world, about what the real purpose of the different theses on the matter and about the question of clash or dialogue.

Such discussions are taking place as we approach the twenty first century, and as intellectuals and thinkers are busy with the concerns of their countries and what lies in wait for them. The scientific, technological and informatics revolution provides those who possess its tools with tremendous capabilities and unlimited power. Progress in the above fields is very rapid, and the gap between those who have it and those who don't is growing wider.

Considering the importance of the question, the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization found it necessary to convene an international conference on "The Clash of Civilizations or the Dialogue of Cultures".

The invitation met with a wide-ranging response and with great interest from thinkers and intellectuals from all over the world.

The Conference was held in Cairo, the Arab Republic of Egypt from the 10th to the 12th of March 1997. It was attended by 300 participants from among leading thinkers in many countries, historians, economists, philosophers, sociologists, writers and

* AAPSO Publications (No.173).

representatives of governmental and nongovernmental, local, regional and international organizations. More than fifty research papers were submitted to the conference, dealing with the four themes of the working document.

The conference was inaugurated by Dr. Mourad Ghaleb, President of AAPSO and of the conference. The research papers were introduced by their authors, according to the order of the themes.

1- The Dialogue of Civilizations on the eve of the 21st century.

2- Western hegemony and cultural specificity.

3- The Arab and Islamic World and the Peoples of the Third World in the Face of Western hegemony.

4- Towards a new humanitarian liberal order.

Following is a description of the dialogue and of the different opinions and views during the conference.

FIRST: CIVILIZATION AND CULTURE

*** Civilization**

Several points of view emerged on the issue of clash of civilizations:

- **The first** maintained that dialogue and clashes between civilizations never stopped throughout history. That civilizations are living organisms that grow, develop and then come to an end. That civilization is a sum of knowledge related to nature and society, and that it determines man's relation with time and place. Civilizations are bound to clash when tyranny prevails.

- **The second** view stated that there is no difference between the definition of culture and that of civilization; that civilization is culture generalized, and that civilization contains many cultures. There is no clash of civilization in our age, because the essence of the clash resides in economic interests.

- **The third** view maintained that the clash or conflict was not a conflict of interests, this being a Western concept, while Islamic civilization is experienced enough to benefit from the dialogue with

others, whereas Western civilization is a racist civilization.

- **The fourth** view maintained that the American way of thinking had taken the lead of civilization today. A way of thinking that was rendering humanity devoid of emotions, and that the idea of the end of history represents the essence of western civilization.-

- **The fifth** view held that the West does represent a civilization, but that it is not the only one, even though it is trying to establish itself as such, that it attempts to compress cultural diversity, and that it considers its own experiences as being global. The view also held that the South was seeking new models, a discovery of each civilization in the language of its own people; thus achieving a new universality for the world.

- **The sixth** view claimed there was no Western civilization, but rather a modern World civilization, and that we are no longer in an age where civilization can be attributed to peoples.

- **The seventh** view considered Africa to be the cradle of civilizations, and that the African peoples, who had been eliminated throughout the past three centuries, were entitled to recover their rightful place.

- **The eighth** view looked upon the clash of civilizations as being a false clash, and that the very subject of the conference places us within the framework of the American way of thinking.

*** Culture:**

On the question of cultures, the following views emerged:

- **First:** culture is a view of the world, a tool for adapting to challenges; it is not an expression of a metaphysical identity. Cultural interaction expresses a balance of forces between cultures and peoples. The upcoming nation is the one capable of assimilating other cultures.

- It is possible for a big culture to dominate smaller cultures and to destroy them through education and language.

- Cultures cannot protect themselves by closing up, but rather through interaction. The cultural exception, in the face of

hegemony does not mean isolation but rather a new and renewed contribution to world culture, since the marriage of cultures is necessary.

There should be an active force that shapes its society by merging with the world current of human scientific creativity and in search of a new philosophy of enlightenment.

*** Dialogue:**

There were two opinions regarding dialogue:

- **The first:** held that to facilitate the process of dialogue, there should be an image of the other, his history, aspirations and dreams.

There should also be a critical self-image. Dialogue can be a harbinger of action, or an escape from action, a means of domination or of integration.

There is a need for dialogue and cooperation between civilizations. We should overcome clash and attain a situation of non-clash.

- The second: rejected both expressions of dialogue and clash; preferring what, they considered, the Islamic expression of onward thrust.

SECOND: GLOBALIZATION AND SPECIFICITY

This issue was tackled from many angles:

- The first angle claimed:

There are great transformations in the world, such as the end of the cold war, the beginning of a unipolar era where the values of the one pole are being imposed on the world. These profound transformations cut us off from the world as we knew it before.

The new world order is not concerned with poor peoples. In fact, globalization is achieved at the expense of the latter.

The technological revolution only moves in one direction. Technology is a vision and an integrated production process, not the processes of using technological tools. The important question that arises is: who controls whom, machines or men?

The temporary and marginal problems of the capitalist society have become structural and basic to the very order itself. The main problem of the world is poverty and environmental resources, particularly in the countries of the South. The capitalist mode of development, consisting of increased production, leads to an increased consumption and, finally, to a waste of resources. Independent countries have become more dependent on their former colonizers.

- The Second angle held:

That issues are presented as a conflict between religions, thus attempting to confine us to discussions belonging to an age long gone, whereas the advancement of the West stems from the fact that it has transcended this issue.

Racism is surging in Europe, embodied in xenophobia and anti Islamic attitudes, despite the fact that there had been a great appreciation for Islam within the framework of European philosophical enlightenment.

The confusion prevailing in the West, mixing up Islam and terrorism, stems from a preconceived bias, so much so that the phenomenon has been labeled "Islamophobia". The West is creating itself a new enemy. This time it is Islam.

Islamic thought is suffering from three crises: a crisis of identity, a crisis of legitimacy and a crisis of referentiality. Islamic fundamentalism transformed the aggressors into victims, and prevented the convergence of all forces opposed to globalization in the Arab World.

- The third angle maintained:

That the African continent, the Arab World and almost all the Islamic countries are considered marginalized areas .that are affected by globalization but have no impact on globalization.

That globalization is not a fate, as they claimed about colonialism. We should avoid the danger of overestimating globalization, as well as the danger of underestimating it.

Refusal is a starting point to resist globalization, not to ignore it. Moreover, globalization cannot be resisted by adapting to it.

Globalization is the hegemony of capital. Social movements in the Western countries are part of the resistance against capitalist globalization. It is possible also for new voluntary groupings to appear in opposition to hegemony, such as the Euro-Asian grouping.

The spiritual factors play an important role in resisting globalization, these are the heritage as a whole, not only religion. At the same time, religion is a spiritual capital that does not belong to one state in particular.

- A fourth angle submitted:

That liberalism and market economy are a threat to true democracy which can neither be imported nor exported. To impose structural reform is done by resorting to further oppression.

A world where only one quarter enjoys well-being cannot be a fitting and stable basis for security and peace.

Economy should be at the service of all peoples. A regulated globalization should be achieved, along with social development, while paying due consideration to specificities. Development should link education, culture and science to create a technology with a human face. A new dialectic view should be attained that integrates both the individual and the collective.

American hegemony must be resisted through the alliance of all the forces opposing it, by activating and democratizing international institutions and encouraging regional initiatives.

There should be a globalization from the bottom in the face of globalization from the top.

A new humanitarian, liberating order should emerge which assimilates and deepens a number of aspects and initiatives: education and culture - training and rehabilitation of the labour forces - popular participation - democracy - dialogue and

consultation - true international cooperation and integration - social interdependence on an international level.

Since the dawn of history, humanity has been trying to establish a society of justice and welfare, a world based on justice with the view to achieving common peaceful objectives, a world where all can enjoy the fruits of scientific and technical progress.

THIRD: THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC WORLD AND THE PEOPLES OF THE THIRD WORLD

- Concerning the Arab and Islamic World:

In reply to Huntington, the clash or conflict is not between Judaism and Christianity on one side and Islam on the other. The West oppressed the Jews of Europe and formed an identity which ended up by negating the identity of the other. Thus the conflict seems to be a conflict of identities or an aggression against identity.

The conflict with Israel is not a cultural conflict, it is a conflict for survival. A democratic, non-racist solution to the Palestinian problem must be found.

There are obstacles to Arab resurgence: The obstacle of the dichotomy of state and society, the obstacle of the police state and the imperialist-Israel external obstacle.

To face it all, it is necessary to establish a serious dialogue between the enlightened, nationalist, Islamic current and the national liberal and socialist currents: an Arab-Arab dialogue, before turning outwards. Only then can a new formulation of post-modernist thought be achieved. There is also a need to review the nature of the relations among Arabs so as to reinforce their position and their effectiveness. Moreover, there is a need for establishing the bases of a new social contract inside the nation.

A positive attitude towards the question of human rights is essential in the Arab World, so as to create a human being capable of self-confident dialogue.

- Concerning the Peoples of the Third World:

There is a need for the universal solidarity of all peoples for peace and democracy, particularly for a solidarity of Asian countries where there has been a fusion of Islamic, Buddhist and Western civilizations.

We need to go back to the spirit of Bandung and to revive it in order to formulate a new line for the advancement of humanity in the face of the new liberalism.

A new Afro-Asian intellectual university should be established.

We should strive towards a world of new and free human beings, a world that can be achieved in one generation if the oppressed of the world unite their efforts in facing the Anglo-American minority.

There is a need for a philosophy compatible with human freedom that can face the liberal, the existentialist and the post-modernist philosophies which represent a view that annihilates history and wipes out the historical memory.

It is important to establish a fund for correcting all the wrongs suffered by Africans through their enslavement.

FOURTH: THE POSITION REGARDING WOMEN

Two opinions emerged in this matter:

There is no-hope of progress in the Arab World so long as women, i.e. half of Arab societies, are fettered and discriminated against.

Women, through their practical stands and actual societal presence, have disproved the claim that women's most important and noble role is within the family, even though the mother is the repository of the values she imparts to the child.

When we speak of specificities, we should speak also of the specific status of women. Women should not be dealt with as a marginal issue, because of the fact that they are a marginalized and oppressed productive force. The liberation of society does not necessarily lead to the liberation of women. The question of women must be tackled on its own.

Arab societies, in their various political forms, apply man-made laws in all matters pertaining to social life, except in matters related to the family and to the relation between man and woman.

Education and the eradication of illiteracy are important, yet they do not represent the ideal means of solving the problem of women. The only solution is for women to struggle and to organize their ranks.

Women seem to have become a secondary element where human rights are concerned. This is due to a special way of envisaging the rights of women that denies them even their right to life.

Another opinion considers that:

Women are not enslaved in the Arab and Islamic world. But women should not have absolute freedom. Islam safeguards the dignity of women and their rights.

FIFTH: HUMAN RIGHTS

In the West, human rights were acquired thanks to long and arduous struggles in which the poor took part.

Today, human rights have become the rights of the mighty and the privileged who detain the authority to determine these rights.

Human rights should be extended to encompass the rights of communities and the rights of minorities.

SIXTH: THE UNITED NATIONS

The U.N. Charter expected a world that is better than the world before the Second World War.

Yet the U.N. did not succeed, because it became an arena of conflict between East and West. After the end of the cold war, the U.S.A. imposed its hegemony on the U.N. and used it as an umbrella to protect its interests.

It is to be noted that, after the cold war, the United Nations imposed many sanctions which some people regard as being contrary to the principles and objectives of Chapter 1 of the

Charter, sanctions extremely negative in nature because of their impact on the third parties. Moreover, all the countries who have been sanctioned belong to the South. Also all the Security Council resolutions apply double standards, in addition to an ideological justification for the racism that appears in these resolutions.

Efforts should be undertaken to revitalize the United Nations and to establish plans for its reform, so that it may become effective; such efforts should take into account the contradictions and divisions existing in the world, contradictions based on social and economic conflicts, geo-political differences, contradictions related to national conflicts and to a clash of views and philosophies.

A new contract for the U.N. should be devised. New principles are needed to confront a new reality. A formula should be found to allow co-existence despite the difference. Respect for international pluralism will lead to democratic international relations, which necessitate the democratization of the U.N., so that the General Assembly may become a sort of "World Parliament", with the participation of non-governmental organizations.

To revitalize the U.N. means to reform it and to review its decision-taking mechanism. There should also be a mechanism to review sanctions. Globalization cannot be overcome unless the reform is accomplished and unless the peoples are truly represented therein.

Three opinions were expressed in this respect:

An opinion stating that representatives from Africa, from Latin America and from the Indian subcontinent must join the Security Council as permanent members, i.e. expanding the right of veto to include countries from the South, in order to enable the Third World to confront the veto. Another view deemed it necessary to cancel the veto, since democracy means the rule of the majority. As for the third opinion, it called for the establishment of a forum other than the Security Council.

There was also the idea of creating a consultative framework, parallel to the U.N.

SEVENTH: CONTINUITY OF THE CONFERENCE'S WORK

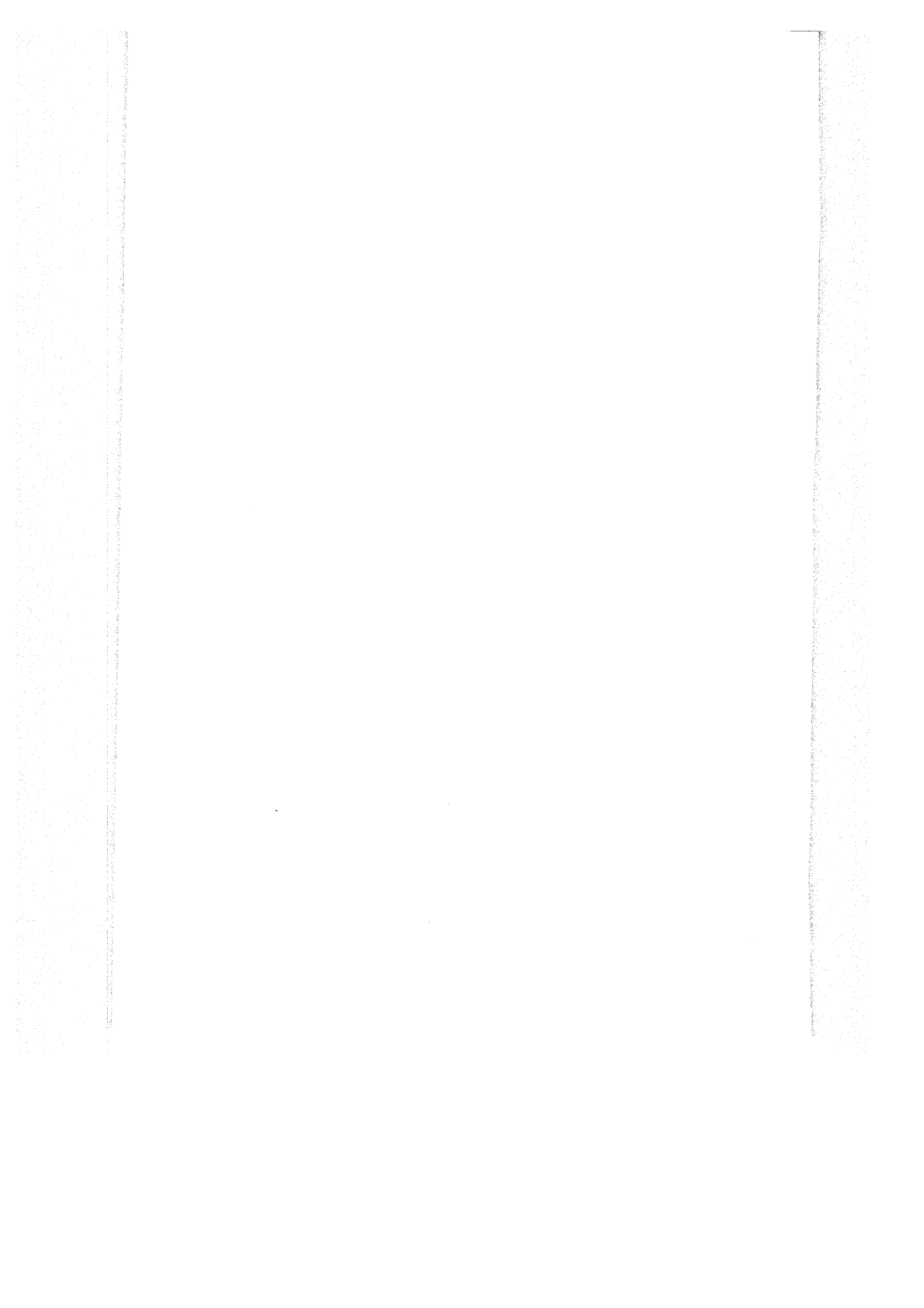
Some participants underlined the importance for the conference not to end without establishing a means of continuity for the ideas and issues it brought to light, and that AAPSO's task should not be limited to having organized such a meeting.

It was suggested that a committee be set up, composed of ten members, representing different societies, whose task would be to submit different views about the possibility of developing the organization's work methods and ensuring continuity for the conference's work.

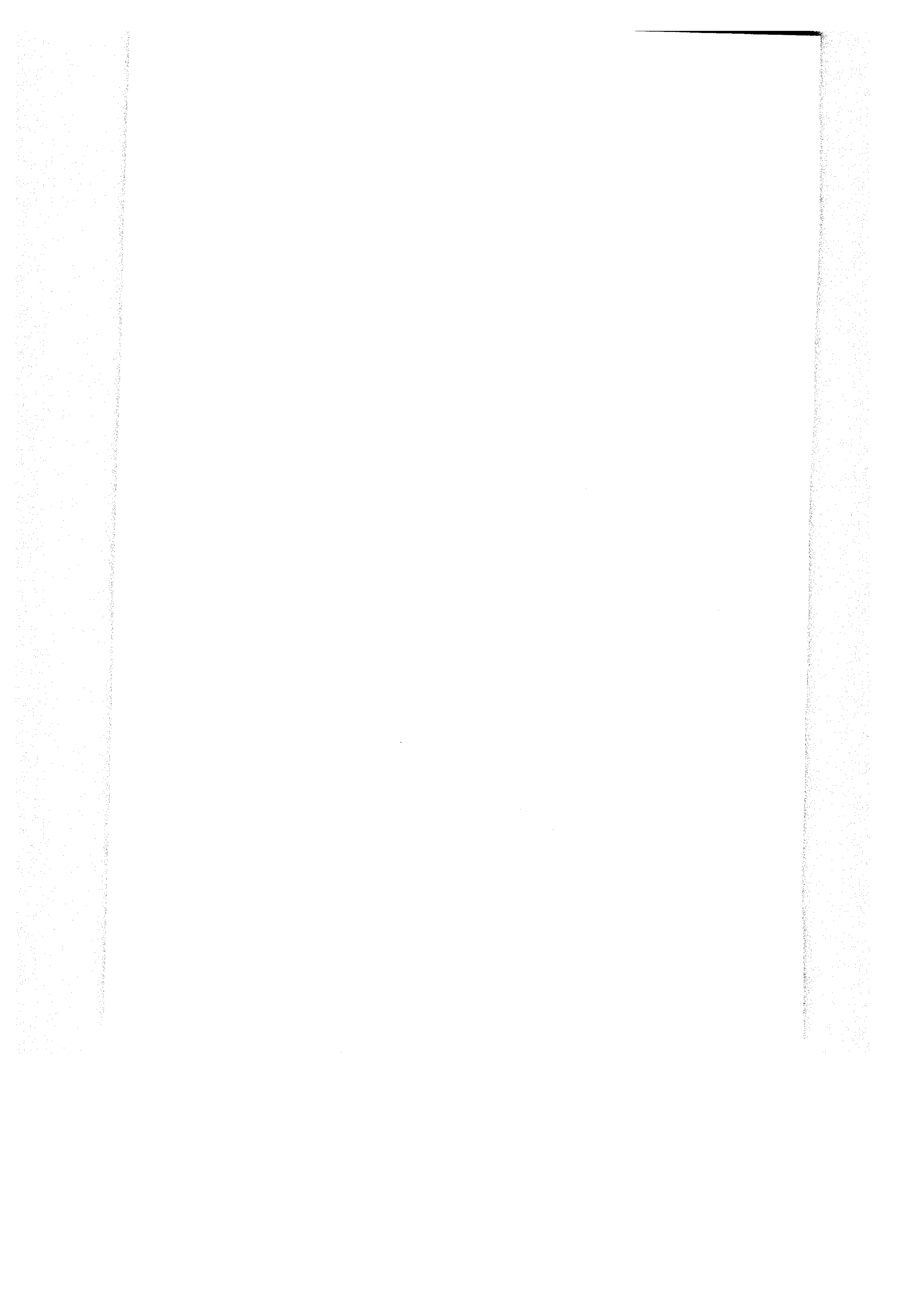
It was also suggested that a network be established to think about specific questions, such as youth, women, the environment and international relations; its task would be to compile information and provide it to those concerned.

Our meeting is a historic event that does not end with the closure of the conference. Our dialogue must continue, because the issues we are dealing with are not simple; they cannot be limited to discussions of today. We must pursue a rich intellectual, cultural and political dialogue that could present our peoples with a forward-looking view and a project for the future.

The fog is thick, but hope lies in you to dissipate the darkness for a better future for our peoples and countries.



Seventhly: The Establishment of Popular Organizations



Afro-Asian Youth Conference*
2nd-8th February 1959
Cairo - ARE

Political Resolutions

The Afro-Asian Youth Conference held in Cairo from February 2nd to 8th, 1959 proclaims that Youth are the foundation of nations and their conscious vanguard. On their shoulders lies the responsibility of building up a happy future for their peoples and for the world at large. But in their struggle to achieve this, the youth meet with many difficulties impeding their realization of new hopes for progress, development and prosperity, and for a free and dignified life. They realize that imperialist designs which aim at exploiting and enslaving them and interfering with their internal affairs constitute a danger to their ambitions; they also realize that these imperialist designs will lead to the establishment of pacts and alliances which are contrary to U.N. Charter, and which threaten world peace. These designs lead to plotting against independent nationalist Governments, to the creation of a state of continuous tension in international relations, and to the encroachment on the national rights of smaller nations to freedom, sovereignty and independence.

Afro-Asian Youth believe that these imperialist designs can start a cold war that would lead to nuclear and non-nuclear arms race, which in turn would result in a world war that threatens the Youth and the Nations; **for this and in accordance with the**

* AAPSO Publications (Without No), "Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference".

Bandung, Cairo and Accra principles, the Afro-Asian Youth Conference condemns:

1- Imperialism and Colonialism in all their forms and manifestations.

2- Foreign interference in affairs of other countries.

3- Military and Political Pacts and unequal aggressive and bilateral treaties which threaten the peace of the World and destroy the aspirations of Youth.

4- The establishment of foreign military bases in other countries.

5- The exploitation of national economies for the benefit of imperialist powers.

6- Conditional aid which would eventually lead to compromise the sovereignty of the aided countries, their exploitation and putting them within areas of influence.

7- The use of Imperialism, of its various methods, including setting Africans and Asians against each other.

8- The emigration of foreigners to African and Asian countries, with the aim of settling them and making them replace the original inhabitants which would thus lead to the eradication of the original inhabitants.

For this the Afro-Asian Youth completely support:

a) The United Nation Charter and the resolutions of Bandung, Cairo and Accra.

b) The right of the people to freedom and independence.

c) The right of the people to solve their internal problems and choose their own system of Government.

d) The policy of positive neutrality which is followed by some Afro-Asian countries, as this policy helps to strengthen peace and to emphasize the principles of peaceful coexistence.

e) The right of any divided people to secure their unity.

9) Imperialist designs against liberated Arab countries and Arab Nationalism which are designs against their unity, security,

solidarity, and struggle.

The Youth of Africa and Asia who have taken upon themselves to liberate these two great continents, Africa and Asia, and in their call for unity of goals and struggle, draws the attention of the world to the main political problems which threaten the peoples of Asia and Africa and which threaten world peace.

In order to achieve all the aims of freedom and independence and in order to realize the hopes of their peoples, Youth should firmly believe that the battle of nations against imperialism is one and the same. It is a national battle inside each country and an international battle which requires the support of all the peoples of the world for the cause of freedom everywhere.

The Afro-Asian Youth Conference appeals to the Afro-Asian Youth, to organize their ranks inside their countries and to perform their part in the battle of freedom, and to bear the burden of fighting and eliminating imperialism.

The Afro-Asian Youth Conference also appeals to the Afro-Asian Youth to equip themselves, intellectually and materially, for the battle of liberation and independence, using all the means of peaceful, as well as armed struggle in each country, according to their special circumstances.

Each Afro-Asian Youth organization must affirm its relations with similar organizations in Africa and Asia and in other countries, to mobilize forces and efforts for freedom and peace and to strengthen solidarity amongst World Youth, in order to stand together as one block against imperialism, exploitation and foreign domination.

The Afro-Asian Youth Conference, which represents more than half of the worldâ?™s Youth, appeals to Youth in all parts of Africa and Asia to stand together against imperialistic plots and exert all powerful and continuous efforts for the sake of liberating the Afro-Asian peoples. It also appeals to the young to sacrifice themselves bravely and valiantly, to liberate every inch in

Afro-Asian soil.

The Afro-Asian Youth Conference calls for the celebration of the 24th of April as the "Day of struggle against imperialism", of working for the achievement of the aims adopted by the U.N. Charter, for supporting nationalist movements and for consolidating the principles of peaceful co-existence.

STRENGTHENING WORLD PEACE

As the armaments race of nuclear and non-nuclear weapons requires enormous budgets and leads to the stockpiling of these weapons and to the establishment of nuclear bases in Afro-Asian soil in particular, and leads to the continuation of nuclear and other tests, thus threatening directly and positively the human race, and threatening, in fact World Peace and all humanity, in case a third World War breaks out;

And as this armaments race and hence, nuclear and non-nuclear tests have a dangerous effect on the lives, the future and everything related to Youth;

THE AFRO-ASIAN YOUTH CONFERENCE STRONGLY CONDEMNS:

1- The continuation of nuclear and non-nuclear tests in any place in the World.

2- The continuation of the armament race of nuclear and non-nuclear weapons.

3- The expenditure of enormous Budgets in arms, at the time when the people are in need of the most bare necessities of life.

4- The passage of aeroplanes carrying atomic bombs over Afro-Asian soil, which exposes the world to the danger of a third World War, ,as a result of the least mischance.

Since the Afro-Asian Youth expresses the will of the peoples of this vital area, and since like any other Youth, it is in great need for consolidating World Peace;

THE AFRO-ASIAN YOUTH CONFERENCE HAS TAKEN THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

1- To unite with the Youth of the World in order to put an end immediately, unconditionally and forever to nuclear tests in all parts of the world, in accordance with the system of supervision adopted by Eastern and Western scientists in Geneva last year. It also draws the attention of the World to the French attempt of conducting an atomic test in the great African desert.

2- To work with the Youth of the World towards the immediate and unconditional prohibition of the use and stockpiling of nuclear weapons. It calls upon the representatives of Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union, who are convening in Geneva, to arrive forthwith, to a settlement that leads to the immediate stoppage of nuclear tests and to banning their use permanently.

3- To work continuously for the use of nuclear energy in the service of peace and for the happiness of humanity.

4- To work towards the liquidation of atomic and other bases established by Great Powers in territories of small countries, especially African and Asian ones.

5- To insist on demanding the reduction of armament budgets.

6- To demand that budgets devoted to armaments, should be spent on raising the material and moral standards of living.

7- To condemn the establishment of atomic bases in Manacew and Sidi Silinian, inside the territories of Maghreb and the establishment of rockets and atomic bombs research centres in Algeria. The Conference calls upon Afro-Asian nations, to mobilize public opinion, in order to condemn this state of affairs which constitutes a threat to world peace, through all the means of publicity.

Since the battle of strengthening world peace and prohibiting the use and the tests of nuclear and non-nuclear weapons, and since the work towards putting an end to the armaments race of

nuclear and non-nuclear weapons do not concern the youth of Africa and Asia alone, or the peoples of Africa and Asia alone, but the people of the whole world regardless of their social, economic or political systems and regardless of their religious or intellectual beliefs;

THE AFRO-ASIAN CONFERENCE URGES THE FOLLOWING:

First: That the Youth of the World, headed by the youth of Africa and Asia, should unite and exert pressure on the big powers to carry out the abovementioned resolutions, using all efforts within their powers and to achieve solidarity with the Youth of the Wor1d.

Secondly: That the Afro-Asian Youth should exert pressure on their respective Governments to adopt these principles and to work for their realisation inside and outside the United Nations.

Thirdly: That the Afro-Asian Youth use all propaganda and publicity means in their power - the press, broadcasting, cinema, theatre and arts - to explain the danger of nuclear armaments and the expenditure of unlimited sums on these armaments.

Fourthly: That the Afro-Asian youth observe the 31st of March, as an international day against nuclear tests and the banning of their use.

Fifthly: That the Afro-Asian Youth urge representatives of the Soviet Union, the United States and the United Kingdom now convening in Geneva to adopt resolutions to ban nuclear tests and the use and stockpiling of nuclear weapons.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

In spite of the spread of national liberation movements in Asia and Africa, and, in spite of the liberation of many African and Asian peoples, yet a great part of the African and Asian Youth still suffer, as a result of the discriminatory practices in certain countries which deprive them of the simplest political, social, economic, and religious rights and which prevent them from enjoying a free, and dignified life. **The Afro-Asian Youth conference, some of whose members have suffered the evils of racial discrimination, resolutely:**

1- Condemns the policy of racial discrimination in all its forms and calls upon the youth of the world to condemn this policy.

2- Condemns the shameful attitude of the governments of South Africa, the United States and other governments which commit the crime of racial discrimination.

3- Calls upon the youth of the world to demand from the United Nations, the expulsion of member governments in the United Nations who do not fulfill the resolutions concerning the elimination of racial discrimination.

4- Calls for the celebration of a day, which will be specified in the future, dedicated to work for the elimination of racial discrimination. This is to be done through all lawful means. The Conference calls upon the Youth of the World to participate in this day.

5- Recommends the formation of a special Committee at the Permanent Secretariat for Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity, whose function would be to work towards the elimination of racial discrimination.

6- Directs a general appeal to the peoples of Africa and Asia and to the Youth of the world to support the nationalists, who are the victims of racial discrimination, in their struggle.

7- Recommends the youth of Africa and Asia to resist the governments, organizations and institutes which support racial

discrimination.

8. Demands the release of nationalists, arrested or imprisoned, due to the implementation of racial discrimination laws.

9. Demands from the youth of Africa and Asia, to work for the abolition of the laws and systems which make of racial discrimination / a lawful policy and calls for the necessity of giving all those individuals who reach a certain age, the right of candidature, voting and employment without discrimination, because of colour, race or creed. The Conference also calls upon the Youth of Africa and Asia to abolish all laws which give foreigners the right to expropriate land from the people and communities and to exploit the resources of their wealth within the framework of a planned economy which satisfies all nationals.

10. Puts the task of eliminating racial discrimination on the shoulders of the Afro-Asian Youth, requests these youth to work continuously inside their organizations and institutions and in every field of their activities, and calls upon them to make of the right against racial discrimination an important element in their struggle. It also calls upon them to mobilize themselves and to utilize the press, broadcasting, and arts for eliminating racial discrimination.

HUMAN RIGHTS

For youth to be able to play its role completely in eliminating imperialism, fostering world peace, banning nuclear weapons, bringing about disarmament and eliminating racial discrimination, it should enjoy all the rights, and liberties laid down by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. No obstacle should stand in the way of the enjoyment of Youth of these rights and liberties.

The Afro-Asian Youth Conference, urges Afro-Asian and wor1d youth to have faith in these principles and to defend them; for the more the believers in Human Rights and the more their defenders,

the more established would these principles become and they would develop and flourish and achieve for all nations happiness and prosperity.

The Afro-Asian Youth Conference calls for implementing Human Rights and not deviating from them under any circumstances, and calls at the same time for putting a stop to the war of extermination waged by imperialist countries in some Afro-Asian countries and expresses indignation at the driving of youth out of their homelands and depriving them of their nationalities for political reasons.

The Afro-Asian Youth Conference calls for the observance of the 24th of April as the day of the struggle for the realization of the aims which were adopted by the U.N. Charter and for the sake of consolidating nationalist movements and fostering the principles of peaceful co-existence.

The Conference appeals to all countries who have not signed the Universal Declaration of Human Right to do so.

It also appeals to all publishing institutions to cross out the word, Israel and put instead the word "Occupied Palestine".

RECOMMENDATIONS ON YOUTH AFFAIRS

The Afro-Asian Youth Conference recommends:

First:

1) The establishment of a permanent office for Afro-Asian Youth attached to the Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation.

2) The Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Peoplesâ?™ Solidarity Conference shall cooperate with the general secretary of the Afro-Asian Youth Conference in organizing the establishment of this office, making use in this respect, of the opinion and suggestions presented by the members of the conference.

3) In seeking to achieve its aims, this Permanent Office shall take into consideration and make use of the viewpoints of all

interested youth organizations in Afro-Asian countries.

4) This above-mentioned office shall do everything that consolidates and strengthens the links between Afro-Asian youth by the following means:

- Setting programmes for combined activities, by which youth in Afro-Asia countries exchange experience on a competitive; friendly basis, denoting the sportive spirit to demonstrate these activities.
- Exchanging missions and leaders in the field of Youth welfare between the countries of the two continents.
- Holding conferences and study groups, both general and specific, to be attended by youth and their leaders.
- Exchanging studies, information and experience in the field of youth welfare.

Second: Youth Festivals:

1- The organizations of the youth institutes interested in Afro-Asian youth affairs should encourage the holding of local festivals, in order to keep intact their popular artistic heritage and should also encourage the participation in international festivals such as the Vienna Festival, in order to attain the result of communication in the international field.

2- The setting up of a festival for Afro-Asia youth, organized periodically in one of the countries of the two continents. This should be organized by the permanent office and the first festival should be held in Cairo, in 1962 provided this date does not clash with other world festivals.

Third: Youth movements:

1- Those in charge of similar movements in the Afro-Asian countries should prepare the atmosphere for cooperation and exchange of youth benefits.

2- Those responsible for youth welfare in Africa and Asia should recognize the different movements of youth, already existing or about to exist in the countries of Africa and Asia.

3- The movement of youth should spring from the natural satisfaction of youth desires: sportive, social, cultural and artistic.

4- The independent countries should offer the positive assistance necessary to develop already existing youth organizations, and to help towards establishment of youth organizations in the dependent countries of Africa and Asia, and to facilitate their participation in the conferences, world festivals and committees of research.

5- Afro-Asian youth have the right to organize special organizations in their own countries.

6- Youth of dependent countries in Africa and Asia have the right to set up special organisations in the countries where they live.

7- Taking the necessary steps to strengthen relations among Afro-Asian Youth by exchanging visits as well as cultural, sportive, scouting and technical excursions among the youth organizations and all other means in the countries of Africa and Asia.

Fourth: The financing of youth welfare:

1) Recommends representatives of the various countries to pay particular attention to private financing, since governments alone cannot finance fully youth movements, due to the fast growth and development of these movements and their need for ever increasing funds.

2) The setting up of special mixed fund in each country for collecting government and private sums of money for youth welfare in Africa and Asia. This fund should supervise the collection of money for youth welfare from various sources and distribute it on youth projects, according to the order of importance and the need of the country for each project.

3) The setting up of a joint general fund in the Permanent Office for the collection of sums of money from Afro-Asian countries for aiding youth organizations in the countries unable to finance their projects as well as in colonised countries in particular

circumstances.

ON THE AFRO-ASIAN YOUTH SECTION

The Executive Committee meeting in Gaza from 9-11 December, 1961, resolves on the- formation of a Liaison Committee, composed of the representatives of the youth organizations in the following countries: Tanganyika, Angola, Nigeria, Morocco, Korea, Iraq, Ceylon, U.A.R.

This Liaison Committee convenes during the meeting of the Executive Committee once every six months.

The Liaison Committee will undertake the following tasks:

1- Establishment of the general policy of the Afro-Asian Youth.

2- Establishment of programs and projects to be executed during the year.

In implementation of this resolution, the Permanent Secretariat will undertake the re-organization of the Youth Bureau, which will undertake the youth affairs under the management of the Permanent Secretariat as the rest of its sections and will take care of the organizations of contacts with the youth organizations in Asia and Africa through the National Committees.

Afro-Asian Women's*
14th - 20th January 1961
Cairo - ARE

The First Afro-Asian women's Conference was held in Cairo in January 1961, in which 35 countiies were represented. The Conference discussed and adopted the reports covering all the problems facing women. In this booklet only the resolutions on women's rights in political, economic, social and cultural fields are edited to introduce the specific features of women's problems.

* AAPSO Publications (No.6).

Appeal Of The First Afro-Asian Women's Conference

We the delegates to the first Afro-Asian Women's Conference held in Cairo from, January 14th to 23rd 1961, representing hundreds of millions of the women of Africa and Asia, take pleasure in reporting the conclusion and success, of the conference, and wish to convey to the Afro-Asian countries which have achieved their independence, our sincere congratulations.

The Conference, recognising the vital contribution of women in the nations' struggle towards liberation and independence, calls upon the Afro-Asian women to unite in their struggle to achieve the goals set by this conference. Afro-Asian women should exert every possible effort by all means to enforce and implement the resolutions and recommendations of this conference.

They should always remember that on their full cooperation, solidarity and integrity, lies the responsibility of liberating countries and peoples who are still under foreign domination and imperialism.

Recommendations For The Struggle Of National Independence And Peace

The Afro-Asian Women's Solidarity Conference held in Cairo and Damascus from January 14th to 23rd, having noted with satisfaction the great progress already achieved by many of the people of Asia and Africa attaining their independence, and the great contribution made by women in this struggle, as well as the advances made in different domains, considers nevertheless that great problems continue to manifest themselves in Asia and Africa, due to the manoeuvres of colonialists and imperialists which endanger the independence and sovereignty of peoples as well as World Peace and delay the liberation of nations and the emancipation of woman.

The Conference realises that the historic mission today of the women in Asia and Africa, is mainly the final eradication of imperialism and colonialism with a view to realising, within the framework of national independence, the peace and prosperity of nations and complete emancipation of women.

On the basis of the exchange of views and the experience demonstrated during the conference and concluding that the women of Asia and Africa have the same enemy to fight and the same aims they aspire to the conference invites national organizations to unify their actions within the framework of solidarity with a view to:

a - the final eradication of imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, as well as the puppet governments composed of fascist and dictatorial elements, since these are the principal elements delaying the complete emancipation of women in Asia and Africa. The conference notes as a great victory for all progressive forces, the adoption by the U.N. General Assembly of the Declaration on granting independence to colonized countries and peoples. At the present time, it is our main aim to ensure that the will of the peoples expressed in this Declaration to put an end

to colonialism, is carried out.

b- the maintenance of peace, immediate, total and general disarmament and the liquidation of military pacts and foreign military bases, cessation of nuclear experiments and the liquidation of arms and atomic bombs and all military occupation by foreign forces.

c- the establishment of a national economy for Asian and African countries, based on industry with a view to raising the standard of living of families, liquidation of unemployment, hunger and poverty, disease and ignorance and opposing military expenditure which encourages maintenance of foreign troops.

d- the establishment of a free, democratic society in which the creative abilities of the people can be fully expanded without any discrimination on the basis of sex, race, etc...

e- the development of the bonds of friendship and fraternity, understanding and co-operation between all people of the world.

For the speedy realisation of all these objectives, the Conference recommends:

a- the setting up of a body for Afro-Asian Women in the Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization, to establish permanent contacts between the women of Asia and Africa, to exchange experiences, viewpoints and information in the light of which, constant and effective co-operation be established for the accomplishment of our common objectives, to ask heads of delegations to meet to work up principles and to charge the Permanent Secretariat for Afro-Asian Solidarity, with organizing a committee which would be responsible for executive aspects.

b- the publication of a journal or review to reflect our conditions, activities, achievements and aspirations, which can contribute to our political and social formation, and contribute to the establishment of a common and united public opinion towards our own and international problems.

c- the organization of practical means of effective and concrete mutual aid in the fight for national independence, world peace and the complete emancipation of our women : these could be effected in collaboration with the various bodies eventually to be created in accordance with the decisions taken by the recent African Summit Conference at Casablanca..

d- the fullest utilization of the press, radio, television and all means of mass communication to unveil imperialist manoeuvres and to mobilize public opinion in favour of effective mutual aid in our people's fight and to plant deeply into the conscience of the masses, their responsibilities, national and social duties.

e- the organization of popular common action for mutual aid by meetings, demonstrations, by donations of money, clothes, nurses, etc..., to help peoples who are fighting.

This common action will start to flow as a small brook, to become a great river, the Afro-Asian Women's Solidarity Movement.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The African and Asian women are determined to continue their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and for national independence and democracy in order to obtain a free, just and honourable existence. Attainment of national independence is an essential pre-requisite to women's rights. Democracy and justice can become mere words without meaning, if women, who comprise more than half the population in any Asian and African state, remain isolated from political life. Nor can the Eastern world be established if the sexes do not cooperate on an equal footing. They must enjoy the rights of equality with men in their political domain, in such a way that the laws arranging them may reflect the re-vindication of the rights of women, their children and the rights of their peoples.

To realize these objectives, the Conference recommends:

a- That women should enjoy the right to vote and to be elected, irrespective of their standards of education and to exercise their rights as citizens on equal basis, with men.

b- That women enjoy equal opportunities with men, to participate in affairs of state, to be appointed to public posts and especially in the magistrates, diplomatic and ministerial corps and to participate in national organs, without discrimination - in the event of equal qualifications - for reasons of sex, social origin, religious conviction, political creed, or social status, and to attain and fully enjoy their rights as citizens.

c- That women enjoy freedom of speech, of the press, organization and meeting, this being hampered by laws incompatible with democracy.

d- That women participate with the mass population, particularly with parties and syndicates in the fight for national independence and the establishment of democracy and peace.

e- That women work for the application of laws of equality, in order that women's equality with men be realistic and effective, by ensuring social and economic security, by disseminating political awareness, in all feminine popular sectors, by uniting women's stand, organising their unity and encouraging the women of Asia and Africa to form feminist associations in order that women can fully express their opinions and realize their aspirations.

The Committee has decided to demand the conference to send the following cables:

1- To the Committee of Human Rights, and the Committee of Women's Rights at the U.N., protesting against the exceptional laws implemented in certain countries, especially the laws imposed in South Africa.

2- To the committee of Human Rights and the Committee of Women's Rights at the U.N. protesting that the Palestinian women are not granted their political rights.

3- Cables of congratulations to the following ladies:

The Prime Minister of Ceylon, Vice-Chairman of State of the Peoples Republic of China, the President of Uzbeck Republic in the Soviet Union, and to Deputy President of the Supreme Peoples' Assembly of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea. The cables are to hail their ability to attain such high posts.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON EQUALITY IN THE ECONQMIC FIELD

The Afro-Asian Women's Conference, convened in Cairo from the 14th to the 23rd of January 1961;

Convinced that the economic independence and rapid development of the economic rights of women are a pre-requisite to the development of national independent economy the Afro-Asian countries, to their stability and to the welfare of the peoples of the countries, demands the complete equality of women in the economic domain, including participation in the activities of Trade Unions and other public and democratic organisations dealing with such economic rights of women. Only thus can the women of Africa and Asia make their full contribution in bettering their working conditions and raising their standard of living.

In order to realise these ends the conference recommends:

I- GENERAL RECOMMENDATION

1- Support to the decisions of the Bandung Conference and the other Afro-Asian Solidarity Conferences dealing with economic problems.

2- The contribution of all Afro-Asian countries, in view of the bad economic conditions of Palestinian refugees, to the relief fund for these refugees, until such time as they return to their homeland. We must also give economic support to those refugees suffering from imperialist aggression and colonialist rule, as well as to all those struggling for national independence.

3- Putting an end to Zionist economic activity in Asia and Africa because it is in reality only veiled imperialism.

4- The support of Afro-Asian countries and co-operation with one another economically and fight against imperialist economic aggression.

5- The boycott of Israeli, French goods and all imperialist countries.

6- Non - victimisation on grounds of Trade Union activities: calls upon women to reduce the consumption of luxury goods and to direct their investments to industrial products which result in raising the living standards of families.

7- Call to all Afro-Asian countries as well as all peace-loving and democratic peoples, to boycott all South African goods.

II. FOR ALL WORKING WOMEN

1- Insurance and broadening of the possibilities of work in Africa and Asia, through the development of national and independent industry and through the betterment of agriculture.

2- Putting into effect the principle of equal work, equal salary.

3- Admission of women in all-fields of work, to which they have had no access and to observe full equality with men in their promotion.

4- Equality of opportunities of vocational and technical training.

5- The creation of social services which permit women to carry their duties as mothers and workers, to mention kindergarden, public cantines, etc... and to institute and apply laws giving them the right to have a holiday before and after delivery.

6- Guarantee of work for married women and for the expectant.

7- Good and sanitary work conditions.

8- The struggle for the freedom of syndicates and the larger participation of women in the organisation of women workers.

9- Raising the level of minimum wages, granting allowances for the high cost of living, the right for medical insurance, and the insurance against work accidents and indemnity of unemployment.

10- Recommending the necessity of full participation of women in executive organs and legal organisations as well as local and international conferences relating to economic activity, in order that women are not isolated from the plans formulated and

implemented.

III. FOR INDUSTRIAL WOMEN WORKERS

1- Institution of promotion cadres for women workers.

2- Non-discrimination in work so that this discrimination may not be taken as a pretext for discrimination in salaries.

3- Acquisition of family allowances, according to the number of children.

4- Free medical care for expectant workers in factories which should also pay for their delivery and their miscarriage.

5- Raising of the standard of the minimum retirement pension.

6- The quick consideration of complaints submitted by the women workers to the work bureaus or to the labour tribunals.

7- Strict application of laws on all categories, regardless of the number of workers.

8- The establishment of retirement houses for the aged women and the lonely.

9- The application of laws by enforcing inspection.

10- The prohibition of women from employment in night work and underground work and all dangerous operations.

11- The organisation of women in handicrafts in producers' cooperatives and extending to them initial capital facilities and raw material, necessary both in production and marketing.

12- The extension of social insurance and social assistance to include:

a. Old age benefits.
b. Widow and orphan pensions.
c. Unemployment relief.
d. Medical assistance and sanatoria.
e. Rehabilitation of the disabled.

IV. FOR AGRICULTURAL WOMEN WORKERS

1- The application of labour laws on all categories of agricultural workers.

2- The creation of a health department for the agricultural

women workers.

3- The creation and development of agricultural industries to fill the gap of seasonal work for these women workers.

4- The training of these workers in the work of rural industries and the modern methods of agriculture.

5- Equal distribution of land for those who till it and the guarantee of means of agricultural production.

6- The creation of agricultural cooperative societies for the benefit of peasants.

V. FOR WOMEN OFFICIALS

1- The right to consult their personal files and to express their points of view.

2- Raising of the salary of beginners.

3- The right of women to climb the scale of administrative and technical hierarchy up to the highest degrees.

4- The creation of a syndicte organisation which permits them to defend their rights.

VI. FOR WOMEN WORKERS IN UNORGANIZED TRADE

1- The extension of protective laws to women in unorganised trades, as domestic service, petty trades such as: cottage industries of dying, laundry, brickmaking and pottery, food etc...

2- The abolition of the practice of contract labour and the extension of advantages of employment, to all labour, especially of women whether skilled or unskilled.

VII. FOR HOUSE-WIVES

1- Reduction of indirect taxes on consumers' goods.

2- Helping those house-wives who wish to remain at home, to increase their income without resorting to outdoor work as well as to benefit from co-operative societies.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON SOCIAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

In order that the women of Africa and Asia may achieve a very high social standard and attain their rights, the following is

recommended:

First:

Their participation in the struggle for independence of their countries and its maintenance so that they may be able to abolish all customs and traditions which are degradatory to the status of a woman.

Second:

Organisation of cultural and educational media at all levels in order to guide women towards their rights and obligations and to encourage them to take up lucrative work to supplement their family income and share the responsibilities.

Third:

Women's work towards urging their Governments to:

a. abolish enforced marriages.

b. fix a minimum age of marriage for girls.

c. suppress or reduce dowry to the minimum, in order to enable young people to marry at a suitable age.

d. abolish such laws as force a wife to live with her husband against her will.

e. work for legislation limiting the number of wives to one, and stopping the man from abusing his right to divorce.

f. pass legislation protecting the rights of the wife in the event of the husband's emigration.

Fourth:

Their non-resort to the right of divorce until all means of reconciliation are exhausted. In the event of divorce, the division of property should be based on consideration of the contribution by each party and that the wife is properly compensated, should the applicant for divorce be the husband. Custody should be in the interest of the children.

Fifth:

Consideration of the rights and responsibilities of women in questions of inheritance.

Sixth:

Guaranteeing the education of young girls and mothers on family matters, future motherhood and bringing up of children.

Seventh:

Inclusion of moral enlightenment in elementary education and cooperation with other organisations censoring the press and cinema, information media in order to avoid the dissemination of subject matter harmful to social and mental well-being, and combatting prostitution in all forms.

Eight:

Increase of the number of maternity homes and centres for mother and child care and the demand for free medical attention in these centres, with the application of modern methods to avoid danger during delivery and bringing home to mothers the importance of family planning.

Ninth:

Work towards the application of convenient paid holidays for expectant mothers and the increase of nursery schools for infants of working mothers.

Tenth:

Bringing home to women their civil right and duties and increasing their national awareness of the importance of the role of women in the family and society and the importance of cooperation by both parties to preserve and safeguard their structure by equally increasing the number of feminist organisations in the villages and towns.

RECOMMENDATIONS
ON CULTURAL RICHTS OF WOMEN

In order to maintain international peace and freedom throughout Afro-Asian countries by means of education as well as other means of struggle, the conference recommends:

1- Education is a natural right to every individual regardless of any difference of sex, colour or class.

2- Education should be national. No foreign language or culture should be imposed on the educational system.

3- For strict combatting of illiteracy according to the success of experiments of countries which succeeded in their struggle.

- The transformation of this struggle to a large-popular movement aided by the popular organisations, the organisation of explanatory campaigns for the mobilisation of the illiterate and driving them to study and the mobilization of the learned and guiding them to teach.
- Organization of mutual co-operation among Afro-Asian peoples by means of exchanging experiences.
- Organization of popular classes by means of the people compatible with the conditions of life and work.
- The encouragement of the movement against illiteracy by means of the help of the governments (offering loans, premises, teachers and measures of encouragements etc.) the popularization of books etc., the organisation of classes for additional education for the prevention of the return of illiteracy and for the rise of the cultural standard.

4- So that education is open to all our children, male, female and for putting an end to all discrimination in teaching among the sexes and classes,

- Demanding free, compulsory primary education for all students, boys and girls under 12 years, and that secondary education should also be free.
- Demanding that girls should have the freedom to choose

their form of education in all its branches and stages and the right to hold responsible posts according to their capabilities.

- Demanding financial aid and scholarships and all measures of encouragement to stir girls and children of poor familities to continue their education.
- Organizing classes for the perfection of technical work for non-specialists and for the vocational progress of workers in their jobs and the advancement of their economic and social status.
- Encouraging women by all means to pursue secondary and high education in order to fill their suitable place in the 20th century.

5- To guarantee for our children a correct education, based on the spirit of brotherhood, peace and progress:

- Organizing popular campaigns against the influence of every imperialist culture.

6- The increase of the exchange of publications, news, students, experts, technicians and exhibitions among the various countries to raise the sense of national consciousness among women, alert them to the plots of imperialism and urge them to join the struggle against imperialism for the sake of the realization of national independence.

7- The fostering of cultural exchange among various countries to go on with the active struggle against imperialism which aims at separating the Afro-Asian peoples and creating conflicts among them. This exchange will effectively further mutual understanding and solidarity among our peoples. Holding education seminars in the near future, in countries where the standard of education is highly developed will be the preliminary step towards implementing this recommendation.

8- The demand that all our Governments and peoples should extend an active aid to all refugees, particularly those of Palestine and Algeria, in order that their children may receive adequate education compatible with human rights (by means of granting

them scholarships and erecting schools for them).

9- Exchange of spiritual values among Afro-Asian countries in order to promote the human values, common among all.

10- In case governments should refrain from exchanging educational co-operation, the conference recommends that the private organizations try to obtain such aids and realize this co-operation.

THE BANDUNG RESOLUTION ON THE WOMENS LIAISON COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee, meeting in Bandung on 13 April 1961 deereed:

The formation of the Women's Liaison Committee in view of the establishment of the "Women's Section", which the Council decided to set up in the Permanent Secretariat from the following countries:

1. Algeria.
2. Guinea.
3. Indonesia.
4. Japan.
5. U.A.R.
6. Vietnam.

That the various solidarity committees will submit their comments on this session to the Permanent Secretariat which in turn, will co-ordinate them and have them presented before the Executive Committee in its coming session.

THE AFRO-ASIAN WRITERS MOVEMENT *

Introduction

The 1st Afro-Asian Writers Conference took place at Tashkent, USSR, in November 1958. This Conference not only explored a new field of unity for the writers in Asia and Africa but also proclaimed a challenge to the culture propagated for the benefit of colonialists and imperialists under the cover of the pretty name of "modern civilization" and urged all Afro-Asian writers to develop national literature.

According to the decision of the Conference, a Permanent Bureau was set up at Colombo, Ceylon, in January 1961 and an Emergency Bureau Meeting took place in Tokyo in April 1961. The Second Afro-Asian Writers Conference, which had been longed for since Tashkent, was convened in Cairo in February 1962. The Second Conference discussed the role of writers in the struggle against colonialism, and imperialism together with other problems specially facing the writers in Asia and Africa.

* AAPSO Publications (Without No)."Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conferences"

PROPOSALS AND RESOLUTIONS
November 1958
OF THE TASHKENT CONFERENCE
FOR AFRO-ASIAN WRITERS
A - Proposals

Indonesia: Formation of a Permanent Afro-Asian Writers' Organisation.

Publication of a literary magazine.

Appealing to governments to encourage translation of Afro-Asian literature.

Ghana: Setting up an editorial office for publishing a literary magazine.

Exchange of literature.

Organisation of Book exhibitions.

Sending experts to Ghana and other countries where help is needed in the organisation of the publishing business.

China: Encouraging mutual visits of writers from one country to another.

More translation of books by Afro-Asian writers.

Holding conferences for discussions on specific literary topics.

Exchange of recommended lists of books, for translation from one language to another.

India: Exchange of lecturers.

U.A.R.: Setting up a permanent secretariat of Afro-Asian writers' movement with offices in Africa, Asia and in an Arab country.

Setting up in each country a national liaison committee.

Establishment of a publishing house.

A thorough study of the copyright problem based on the UNESCO draft.

Publication of a biographical directory of Afro-Asian writers, making a catalogue of literature translated into English, French and other languages.

Holding festivals of literature.

Exchange of books.

Mutual translation and publication of books.

Korea: Mutual visits of writers.

Translation of books.

Creation of special departments for Afro-Asian. literature at Universities.

Exchange of literature.

Setting up a permanent body.

Burma: Establishment of annual prizes for the best books.

Publishing a biographical directory of Afro-Asian Writers.

Senegal: Awarding of annual prizes.

Holding meetings and discussions of writers on various literary subjects.

Buying rare books and other cultural material in Africa thus saving them from imperialists.

Establishment of scholarships.

Collection of folklore.

Ceylon: Establishment of a fund to help writers who are in need.

Publication of books of writers being exploited by their publishers in their respective countries.

Establishment of a publishing house with the translation center.

Mutual visits assisted by the international fund.

Vietnam: Encouraging book publication in each country of Asia and Africa.

Setting up a bureau for selecting books for translation.

India: Establishment of a publishing house.

Translation of Afro-Asian classics into English, French, Spanish, German and Russian should be undertaken by India, China and the U.S.S.R.

Somali: Scholarships to Somali students.

Paying royalties to writers whose books will be translated.

Pakistan: Suggestion to set up a bureau of Afro-Asian writers consisting of USSR, China, India, Indonesia, Ceylon, Pakistan, U.A.R. and an African country.

U.A.R.: Suggestion that Cairo should be a temporary seat of the Bureau, before final arrangements are made for another country.

Thailand: Establishment of a magazine, "Afro-Asian Culture".

Indonesia: The delegation is not prepared to give its consent to the proposal that Indonesia is made the seat of the Bureau.

Philippines: Suggestion one center in Cairo, one in Indonesia and one in Tashkent.

B - Resolutions

Bearing in mind numerous proposals of the delegates and their desire for unity and for the promotion of mutual contacts, the Conference deems it necessary to set up a Permanent Bureau of Afro-Asian writers consisting of the representatives of Ghana, Indonesia, Kamerun, China, U.A.R., U.S.S.R., Sudan, Ceylon, Japan. It is desirable that the literary Academy of India elect its delegate to the Bureau.

The seat of the Permanent Bureau is decided to be Ceylon.

It is recommended that two regional centers of the Bureau are established: one in Asia and one in Africa.

The Conference recommends the Permanent Bureau to study proposals made by delegates regarding the setting up of an Afro-Asian publishing house, publication of a periodical, the establishment of international prizes for the best works of Afro-Asian writers and of a fund to render financial assistance to Afro-Asian writers.

The Conference decides to publish the collection of its documents.

The Conference accepts with gratitude the invitation of the U.A.R. writers' delegation and decides to hold the next Conference of Afro-Asian writers in Cairo in 1960.

APPEAL TO AFRO-ASIAN WRITERS
Addressed by the International Preparatory Committee, held in Cairo from 27th February to 2nd March 1961

The Tashkent Conference of Afro-Asian writers in October 1958 was a landmark in the history of the movement for Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for yet closer relations amongst the writers of these two continents in their common aspiration to achieve liberty, prosperity and peace. The resolutions adopted in that conference were like a torch that guided the writers of Asia and Africa and endowed them with great energies for creative work.

When the Permanent Bureau of the Afro-Asian Writers was established in Colombo in January this year, the first intention of those assembled in Tashkent was realised. That conference actually laid the foundation for co-ordinating the activities of writers' organizations and committees in different countries in this region, to achieve unity of purpose and unity of action.

And now in Cairo, the International Preparatory Committee for the IInd Afro-Asian writers conference with the participation of writers from fourteen countries have met and exchanged views in an atmosphere of friendship and solidarity. Having viewed the situation in the background of current developments especially in Africa and Asia, in relation to the aggressions of imperialists and colonialists in these two continents, the Preparatory Committee reaffirms the great role the writers in Africa and Asia play in combatting the imperialist aggressive reactionary forces that are at work.

The Preparatory Committee considers that this decisive stage of development in Afro-Asian countries requires of writers great and effective effort in guiding the people of these two continents towards a prosperous future and the Committee underlines the part the writers should play in the national aspirations of

Afro-Asian people.

The Preparatory Committee unanimously decided to hold the IInd Conference of Afro-Asian writers in Cairo from 13th to 20th November, 1961.

It was also resolved that the following themes be taken up for discussion at the Conference:

1. The Role of Writers in the Struggle of Afro-Asian Peoples against imperialism and colonialism, for national independence and for world peace.
2. The role of translation in strengthening the spirit of solidarity of Afro-Asian peoples and the promotion of cultural exchanges amongst them.

Problems to be discussed in Sub-Committees:

1. Developing national culture in Afro-Asian countries.
2. Re-evaluation of the history of Afro-Asian peoples and the propagation of their civilization.
3. Studying the conditions of writers in Afro-Asian countries and developing the means of publishing.

In the choice of these themes the Preparatory Committee reaffirms the belief in the important role that the writers of Africa and Asia should play in the struggle for freedom and independence against colonialism and imperialism. The Preparatory Committee noted with grave concern the developments in the Congo where the legally elected Prime Minister, Patrice Lumumba was assassinated by the imperialists and their agents. The Preparatory Committee calls upon all African and Asian countries and freedom-loving nations to recognize and fully supports henceforth the Government of Gizenga as the only legitimate Government of the Congo. In this connection, the Preparatory Committee strongly denounces the intimidation directed against the U.A.R., Ghana, Guinea and other countries by the imperialists and their agents for the support these countries have extended to the struggles of the peoples for liberty

and national independence.

The Preparatory Committee also denounces the criminal action of the Portuguese imperialists against the freedom fighters in Angola. It also denounces the continued aggression of French imperialists on Algeria, salutes the heroic struggle of the Algerian peoples for national liberation and supports the Revolutionary Government of Algeria in its fight for the unity of Algeria.

The Preparatory Committee vigorously denounces the French imperialists, who even after the proclamation of Independence continue their colonial war in the Kamerun.

The Preparatory Committee also denounces the imperialist intervention in Laos which has created a state of chaos in that country and demands the immediate cessation of imperialist and SEATO intervention in this country. The Preparatory Committee salutes and supports the heroic struggle of the Indonesian People against the Dutch military aggression in West Irian.

The Preparatory Committee supports the resolutions of the previous Meetings, Conferences and Councils of Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity, relating to the struggles of Afro-Asian peoples for their freedom.

The Preparatory Committee extends its full support to the emergency session of the Permanent Bureau of the Afro-Asian Writers to be held in Tokyo at the end of March 1961.

Finally the Preparatory Committee appeals to all national Committees of Afro-Asian Solidarity and writers' organisations and to the writers themselves to extend their cooperation to make the IInd Afro-Asian Writers Conference in Cairo a great success.

TOKYO COMMUNIQUE
of the Emergency Meeting of the Permanent Bureau of Afro-Asian Writers
27th-30th March 1961
Tokyo - Japan

Writers from twenty Afro-Asian countries met in Tokyo from 27-30 March, 1961 in an emergency meeting of the Permanent Bureau, in accordance with the resolution adopted at the Colombo Bureau Meeting held from 3rd to 10th January 1961. The resolution to summon this emergency meeting, was adopted in Colombo at the request of the Japanese Liaison Committee, and in view of the surging struggle of the Japanese people and the Japanese writers, in particular and other developments in the two continents, in general. In a spirit of complete understanding and solidarity they discussed "The Role of Afro-Asian Writers in the Developing Situations in the Two Continents". After thorough and friendly deliberations, the meeting unanimously issued the following communique:

"The struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples against imperialism and colonialism, for national independence, democracy and peace has reached unprecedented heights and we wholeheartedly support this struggle. Victory after victory is being scored from day to day. We highly appreciate that support to the Algerian people under the leadership of the Provisional Government, is being extended from all parts of the world.

The people of the Kamerun together with the people of Angola, Kenya, Rhodesia, Nyasaland, South Africa, Zanzibar, as well as the peoples of other places, are waging bitter struggles against colonialism and neo-colonialism and tyrannical rule, and are marching ahead, supported by all Afro-Asian peoples, to achieve their unquestionable victory. On the other hand, the imperialists and colonialists, particularly of the U.S.A., are intensifying their aggression, directly and indirectly, in Algeria through NATO, in the

Congo, through the UNO, in the Arab world through Israel, to deprive these countries of their independence and perpetuate their imperialist control. The shameful and mast brutal murder of Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba and his colleagues is another proof that the nature of imperialism can never change. We support the Algerian people's struggle for independence, under the leadership of the Algerian Provisional Government which is the sole representative of the Algerian people, for the total sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the A1gerian people. We support the Congo people in their struggle to ensure the legality and free functioning of their constitutional institutions, the maintenance of their independence and their territorial integrity under Prime Minister, Antoine Gizenga, head of the legitimate government of the Republic of the Congo. We condemn the intensification of aggression by American imperialists in Laos, and we condemn the attempt by the U.S.A, to turn Laos into a military base directed against peaceful countries, and we demand the immediate convocation of the fourteen nation conference for a peaceful and effective solution of the Laotian question. We support all just struggles of the peoples of Asia and Africa to achieve their national aspirations. We fully sympathise with and support the demands of the peoples of Korea and Vietnam to accomplish the peaceful unification of their countries which are unjustly divided by the American imperialists. The territories cut off by the imperialist powers from their mother countries such as Taiwan, Goa, West Irian and Okinawa must be restored respectively to the People's Republic of China, to India, to the Republic of Indonesia and to Japan.

Democratic liberties, such as freedom of expression and publication, freedom of movement and of cultural exchanges and the respect for national cultures, are the established sacred rights of the people; their suppression and the distortion of national cultures can only be in the service of the forces of reaction and

backwardness. We vigorously deplore and condemn the anti-democratic measures adopted by the imperialists and their accomplices to suppress the democratic liberties and human rights of the writers and the peoples; and we condemn racialism in all its forms.

Unity, solidarity and exchanges of Afro-Asian writers are of paramount importance in their struggle to achieve their common aims, hand in hand with their own people and the peoples of the whole of Asia and Africa.

We highly appreciate and support the staunch struggle of the Japanese people and their writers, against foreign military bases, aggressive military alliances and pacts, and for a peaceful democratic and completely independent Japan. We condemn the military bases stationary and ambulant like the sixth fleet operating in the Mediterranean and the seventh fleet in the Pacific.

We, Afro-Asian writers, dedicated to serve our peoples and to inspire them to realize their aspirations, are of the opinion that the achievement of total and complete disarmament, through a complete ban on nuclear tests and their devices, liquidation of aggressive military pacts and blocks, and settling of differences and disputes among countries through negotiations, and the immediate abolition of colonial rule, will pave the way for all the peoples of the world to establish lasting world peace.

The Permanent Bureau will mobilize all writers of Asia and Africa in a systematic campaign to wipe out imperialism, colonialism and racialism in all forms.

We call upon all Afro-Asian writers, to prepare well for the coming Second Afro-Asian Writers' Conference, to be held in Cairo in November this year and to exert their utmost efforts to ensure its full success".

GENERAL DECLARATION
The Role Of Writers In The Struggle Of Afro-Asian Peoples Against Imperialism And Colonialism, For National Independence And For World Peace
Cairo-Egypt

After Tashkent, Colombo and Tokyo, the Second Afro-Asian Writers' Conference is held in Cairo. This gathering is the result of the struggle of the Afro-Asian people in general, conscious of their problem and strong masters of their destiny. The fact that they are meeting in Cairo, crossroad of a world in gestation and in evolution, capital of a country liberated from colonialism and target of imperialist manoeuvres, is significant - the U.A.R. is in a way the geographic junction and the link between our two continents.

It is because our movement is an integral part of it, that it constitutes a repercussion of the powerful awakening of consciousness for the liberty and the independence of millions of Afro-Asians, a result of the victory of most of the peoples over the colonisers and the imperialists and of the revolutionary struggle, an expression of their ardent wish to build a new glorious and prosperous life. Our movement is a continuation, in new circumstances and different and better conditions, of affirmation of the Afro-Asian personality. The evolution of our minds and our awakening began, thanks to the enlightenment of many unknown writers, men of letters and other celebrities such as Rabindranath Tagore, Lu Hsun, Sadruddin Ain, and Taha Hussein.

Our Conference is held at a moment when the Afro-Asian universe is passing through a decisive phase, which definitely leaves its imprint on the present world in its transformations.

The Afro-Asian writer lives an incomparable historical experience. The state of Asia and Africa which places him in the midst of these enormous movements, offers him the privilege and the heavy task to be at the same time, the witness and the active

factor of these transformations.

The writers' meeting having noted the general report and the interventions of the different delegations have now an objective and more complete view of the situation in the world and particularly, in our two continents. This situation is characterised by an intensification of the struggle of the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America. In certain cases, this struggle is manifested in the form of national liberation war and revolutionary movements.

In other cases, it has taken the form of mass action against the puppet governments; in other cases still it has appeared in the form of economic and social transformations. The imperialist system is shaken by it, to its deepest foundations. In reaction, the imperialists use all the means at their disposal, to avoid and to set back their inevitable doom.

The awakening of consciousness and the vigilance of the people have reinforced our solidarity - The peoples of both continents are regrouping themselves. The qualitative change of the colonised countries into independent countries and the intensification of the national liberation movements, the extension and the reinforcement in all domains of the countries of the socialist camp, have turned the balance of forces in favour of the anti-imperialist struggle. The gradual awakening of consciousness of democratic forces in colonial metropolies and in other countries, constitute a strong support for the anti-imperialist struggle.

The imperialist camp, under the direction of the U.S.A. tries to maintain itself by all means:

* The direct aggression against countries such as Algeria, Angola and Cuba;
* The division of countries such as Vietnam, Korea, Indonesia and Palestine, and the aggressions perpetrated against them;
* The plots directed against the territorial and national unities, such as the Conga, West Irian, Okinawa;
* The multiplication of pacts and aggressive military alliance :

CENTO, NATO and SEATO;

* The corruption and maintenance of puppet governments.

These are some of the means used by the imperialists and their allies to continue to dominate, and exploit the people, while at the same time putting a brake to their emancipation.

In spite of the diabolical forces at its disposal, imperialism is mainly served by our divisions, the dispersion of anti-colonialist energies and the creation of the so-called "revolutionary movements". The struggle against colonialism and neo-colonialism is particularly in the present situation, the substance of Afro-Asian solidarity.

On the other hand, it is evident that if imperialists should launch a thermo-nuclear war, an enormous destruction would annihilate, in an unprecedented manner, the cultural achievements of humanity. That is why we are resolutely in favour of the liquidation of all weapons of mass destruction and of foreign military bases. Writers, as well as others, are preoccupied with the problem of peace and join their efforts to the struggle of the people, in view of stopping the back-out of a new world war. It would be an illusion for writers to defend the theme of peace, in any other way than by fighting the cause which endangers it: imperialism the only warmonger.

That is why we must support with all force, the world peace movement as well as all international organisations struggling for national independence, progress and peace.

For us Afro-Asian writers, the struggle for attainment and safeguarding of national independence, the support accorded to the struggle, as well as to the combat waged against imperialism, constitute our best contribution to the cause of peace.

The liberation of the African and Asian countries weakens imperialism, beginning with its leader U.S. imperialism, by removing its bases of aggression, and its economic and military arsenal. It repels the forces of war and creates conditions for

world peace.

To be worthy of its representativity and to justify its responsibility before history, the Afro-Asian writer must be the authentic expression of the aspirations for independence and freedom expressed, on the other hand by the sacrifices and the struggles of his people.

Nothing must separate the struggle of the writer from the political or revolutionary battle of his people. The Afro-Asian writer must be "engaged" in the field of recovery of national independence, as well as in the field of social liberation of culture.

Yet by his intellectual make-up, the Afro-Asian writer is more vulnerable than his people, to the influence of misleading ideologies. Hence the increased need for vigilance and a constantly closer link with the masses. The Afro-Asian writer must exert all efforts to eliminate all sort of colonialist - inspired literature, harmful to the mind and the fighting will of his people. The suppression of all domination and all external or internal oppression, such as fascism and militarism, the defeat of all cultural imperialism can alone permit to pave the way, for the full flourishing of Afro-Asian national cultures and their elevation to Universality.

The Afro-Asian writers must support by their literary and social activities, all the measures which aim to ensure a better understanding and increased mutual assistance amongst their peoples. We rejoice at the increasing influence of Afro-Asian nations in the international community and support all measures tending to increase the representation of our nations which would reflect their importance. Our aspirations and interests should be adequately ensured in world organisations, such as the United Nations Organisation and disarmament conferences.

RESOLUTION

The Role Of Translations In Strengthening The Spirit Of Solidarity Of Afro-Asian Peoples And The Promotion Of Cultural Exchanges Among Them

1. PREAMBLE:

1) History taught us that mutual translation of literary, scientific and cultural works among nations in the world, have played a very important role in enriching the treasury of human civilization and culture.

We are now living in an era of technology and science which continuously make the values of distance shorter and shorter and places the life of a nation in such a position, that any isolation from international relation is impossible.

That is why, the role of mutual translation of literary, scientific and cultural works in general, is an important question in the communication of human life.

2) But, mutual translation done on the basis of the interest of imperialist and colonialist policy and culture, as it has clearly been shown to us by our history, is evidently very harmful and even disastrous for the healthy development of culture and civilisation of man-kind.

3) We, Afro-Asian peoples, we, the writers, must do the work and promote our translation on the basis of serving the Afro-Asian peoples' interest of today and of the bright future, and at the same time enriching progressive literature of the world.

(2) THE CONTENTS OF TRANSLATION ACTIVITIES:

1) The works should be elected from among the books reflecting the real aspiration of the Afro-Asian peoples, for national liberation, complete independence and peace.

2) In the light of the spirit mentioned in item No. (1), translation should be concentrated on the books concerned with contemporary issues. But at the same time, attention should be

paid to classical works, because many of them are also reflecting national tradition and spiritual and intellectual lives of the peoples which are closely connected with the struggle of Afro-Asian peoples, now surging ahead.

3) The works to be translated should cover all the fields, literary, political, economic, social and historical.

4) Attention should be paid especially to folklore works and juvenile literature. Juvenile literature should be treated as the literature anticipating future.

5) In order to mobilize the forces of Afro-Asian Peoples in their struggle, priority in translation should be given to books accessible to the masses. Books which do not fulfill this condition should be simplified, at the same time being honest to the original.

6) Special attention should be given to the translation of works of progressive and revolutionary writers of Latin America.

(3) PRACTICAL MEANS TO IMPLEMENT THE TRANSLATION ACTIVITIES:

Reviewing the propositions of the delegates, at both the First Conference in Tashkent and the Second Conference in Cairo, we feel the necessity to set up a translation center within the framework of the Permanent Bureau in Colombo.

The function of the translation center should be as follows:

1. The preparation of a yearly calendar containing the important translations from and into the Afro-Asian languages, with a special care to the books which illustrate the national struggle movements and the strengthening of Afro-Asian Solidarity between these countries.

2. Collecting lists of books published in the Afro-Asian countries, mentioning the language of the book.

3. The translation should be done for national authors whether their works are in their vernaculars (and that is preferable) or in any other European language.

4. The translation Center should try to make contact with the

progressive international writers' and translators' organizations which are actually acting in support of the struggle of Afro-Asian peoples.

5. Since visits by translators of African and Asian literature to the countries of origin is of the utmost importance for the development of translation, the translation center should examine the possibilities for organising such visits on the basis of non-value exchange and make corresponding proposals to writers' organisations in the Asian and African countries.

6. To stimulate translation and raise its level, it would be expedient for the Translation Center to offer special prizes for translators of African and Asian literature. Such prizes, from one to three annually, would be awarded for the most vivid, talented translations, as recommended by writers' organisations of the countries, into whose languages, the translations are made, such recommendations to be supported by writers' organisations of the countries of origin of the books.

7. The Translation Center should pay special attention to extending every kind of support to writers of the young African states, in the popularisation and translation of their books, because African literature does not always possess established international contacts and it is of the greatest importance that the world reading public should become acquainted with their works.

8. The Translation Center should discuss all these questions at its first session and map out concrete steps and the periods of their implementation, so that the necessary applications and recommendations could be sent to all African and Asian countries without delay.

9. The authors whose books are translated should be consulted and informed.

10. In compliance with the principles mentioned in items (1), (2), and (3) the conference requests the Executive Committee to take the quick necessary steps for the establishment of the

Translation Center.

11. The Conference recommends independent Afro-Asian countries to encourage the study of Afro-Asian languages, in order that literary translators should be available to carry on the translation movement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **On developing National Culture in Afro-Asian Countries.**
- **On re-evaluation of the History of Afro-Asian Peoples and the propagation of their civilisation.**
- **On the conditions of Writers in Afro-Asian Countries.**

PREAMBLE:

We think the most important points about our language are 1st, to strengthen our solidarity for the struggle against imperialism and colonialism; 2nd, to develop national culture and to revise the history of Afro-Asian peoples. These two points, in fact, are two aspects of the same idea. Without the former, we will lose our bearings in our forward march; without the latter, we will lose our confidence and courage in our struggle.

We hold that the questions of developing the national culture of our two continents and of putting our national culture in a solemn and independent position, are inseparable from the struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for national independence. So long as imperialism and colonialism, headed by U.S.A., Britain, France, Portugal, Belgium, Israel and others, are not overthrown, it is impossible to bring about the full development, inheritance, inter-change and co-operation of the national culture. Therefore, the Afro-Asian writers must use their pens as their weapons to take part in the anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist struggles of the people;

to strengthen and to foster their confidence and national dignity;

to take over the cultural tradition of their fatherland; to liquidate imperialist and colonialist cheap culture which poisons the minds of their peoples;

to expose the imperialist schemes of cultural aggression;

to exert their utmost effort in spreading and interchanging the national cultures among the Afro-Asian countries;

to carry on the fine traditions of their fore fathers, of learning from each other, to enable them to develop the best of their

cultures splendidly;

This is our common aim and sacred duty.

We, Afro-Asian Writers, will unite firmly in this sacred struggle, to pave the road for the creation and the development of our national culture.

Noting that culture is the fundamental principle which awakens the conscience of man, strengthens his spirit, elevates his moral standard, betters his mind and opens up wide vistas in material and intellectual fields, and boosts Afro-Asian personality,

The following are put forward by the committee as factors aiming at strangling and dominating culturally the Afro-Asian peoples and as manifestations of the evils of such cultural domination.

FACTORS:

1. The literature by writers who serve the interests of the imperialists and colonialists, and whose works are motivated by the desire of such forces to oppress the peoples of Africa and Asia, and to make them accept the status quo, wherein the colonialists are the owners of the Afro-Asian countries.
2. History writers deliberately distorting the cultural and national history of the peoples of Africa.
3. Imperialist-controlled press agencies and journalists, who serve to the world the corrupt policies of the settler governments in Africa and Asia.

MANIFESTATIONS:

1. Disdain of the Afro-Asian peoples to their own culture, their own nationality and taking pride in the borrowed nationality of the colonisers - such as is the case in the Portuguese colonies.
2. Abandonment of their own mother-tongues and speaking the language of the colonisers and thus reducing their personality, as it the case in some African countries.
3. The death of Afro-Asian culture, the flourishing of foreign culture and the reluctance of the peoples in the colonised

countries to consolidate their struggle against colonialism and imperialism.

I- The Strengthing Of National Cultures In The Afro-asian Countries And The Development Of The Afro-asian Personality.

1. The study of the contemporary Afro-Asian literature in its confusion with the national struggle, promotion, development and preservation of national culture, adoption of progressive aspects of foreign civilisations which are beneficial to the Afro-Asian countries; struggle against the dependence on imperialist cultures.
2. The good care of the national languages and talking them on the basis of literary expression, so that they may play their role in the struggle against imperialist cultural domination.
3. The revival of national art and literature, i.e., popular and traditional; the collection and study of popular literature including legends arid songs.
4. The organisation of Afro-Asian exhibitions where models of popular arts are to be exhibited in order to reach to understanding and sympathy.
5. The study of the literary links among the Afro-Asian countries in the course of history, to show the extent of sympathy and solidarity among them in the literacy field.
6. The study of the role played by the Afro-Asian countries in the creation and development of human civilisation.

II. Revision Of History Of Afro-Asian Culture And Propagating Their Civilisations.

1. To form special organisations to take charge of collecting the special and general documents, tabulating them, and translating the sources and historical origins that are related to us and which were written in other languages and composing historical encyclopaedias which could not be done through individual effort.
2. To organise literary competitions and award prizes, to

facilitate means of research and to encourage serious individual efforts which deal with history and civilisation.

3. To facilitate means of publication, publicity and exchange, in order to achieve mobilisation and spread true awakening of consciousness.

4. To hold periodical conferences and seminars in order to discuss various problems, to exchange views, consolidate relations and to learn of the exerted efforts in every country in order to achieve this aim.

5. To recommend the inclusion of a sufficient amount of the history of our peoples in the curriculae of the Afro-Asian schools.

III - The Writers' Status In Asia And Africa.

1. The problem of unwritten homages:

a. To transform spoken languages used by some Afro-Asian peoples into written languages choosing the convenient and suitable alphabet for them and to establish the grammatical rules for these languages and to record their history and literatures.

b. Translations movement. To consolidate the translation movement to strengthen Afro-Asian solidarity, besides encouraging writing in national languages.

c. Writing in foreign languages. To encourage the movement of translating books written by national authors in the Afro-Asian countries in foreign languages, into national languages and other Afro-Asian languages.

2. Curriculae :

To encourage the scope of teaching Afro-Asian languages in the Universities and some specialised institutes (such as the school of languages) and to create Seats in the universities for some languages, known for their wealth and intellectual masterpieces.

3. Cultural Relations:

To exchange visits among Afro-Asian writers in order that they may be acquainted and get to know each other's work. To set up

periodical Afro-Asian. exhibitions.

4. An Afro-Asian Encyclopaedia:

To form an Afro-Asian encyclopaedia which would give detailed information about the countries participating in the Conference, together with their history, civilisation, legends, antiquities, well-known personalities and intellectual treasures. This encyclopaedia is to be published in all the written and the new languages, that is languages which will be turned into written languages, taking into consideration the promotion of national movements.

5. Mass Media:

To recruit mass media in the Afro-Asian countries for making known the Afro-Asian book and Afro-Asian writers, for following up their literary production and for introducing samples of this production through regular means.

6. Non-Afro-Asian books:

To translate the literary treasures and masterpieces and books serving enlightenment, peace and social justice and published in countries other than the Afro-Asian states. It recommends the translation of all these, into the national Afro-Asian languages, in order to spread their use and achieve the human objectives.

7. Translation into Non-Afro-Asian Languages:

To set up a wide-scale translation movement for the Afro-Asian intellectual production into the Afro-Asian languages. It also recommends the flooding of European and American markets with this production after the European and American production has kept flooding the Afro-Asian peoples for long centuries. This is to be done in order that the Afro-Asian culture may take its place beside other world cultures and occupy its deserved position in the universities abroad.

ORGANIZATIONAL RESOLUTIONS

The IInd Afro-Asian Writers' Conference, held in Cairo from 12th-16th February, 1962, considers that:

In pursuance of the Tashkent resolutions and in order to meet the growing responsibilities of Afro-Asian Writers towards the struggles of their peoples and the development of their cultures, the Second Afro-Asian Writers' Conference has decided to intensify every effort to strengthen the Afro-Asian Writers' movement and especially the Permanent Bureau.

Consequently, the Conference has adopted the following resolutions:

A. The Permanent Bureau:

1. The Place:

The place of the Bureau will remain in Colombo.

2. Membership of the Bureau:

The membership of the Bureau should continue as it is namely: GHANA, INDONESIA, KAMERUN, CHINA, U.A.R., U.S.S.R., SUDAN, CEYLON, JAPAN, INDIA, with CEYLON to act as Secretary General.

3. Tasks:

The minimum tasks of the Bureau during the coming period, will be the coordination of work of national committee and also the implementation of the resolutions adopted at different Conferences and Executive Committee meetings, specifically:

1. To contact member-countries for the creation of Liaison Afro-Asian Writers' Committees, where they do not exist, and to strengthen those, that are already in existence.
2. Coordination of activities of the national committees.
3. Collection of data with regard to literature, writers, and conditions of writers and their movements.
4. Dissemination of information through publications.
5. Helping in organising translation work.
6. Helping the writers in their different activities.
7. Supporting the struggles of Afro-Asian peoples and writers against colonialism, neo-colonialism and imperialism.

4. Functioning:

All members of the Bureau are collectively responsible for the work, but to guarantee its continuity, the Bureau will meet, in full, at least every six months, or whenever there is an emergency.

5) Budget:

a. The budget shall consist of contributions from member-countries.

b. A detailed budget shall be prepared and implemented by the Bureau. The Conference calls upon all member-countries to do their utmost to contribute to this budget. Duly audited accounts must be published by the Bureau every year.

B- The Executive Committee:

1) Composition :

The Executive Committee shall consist of the following 23 countries:

(1) ALGERIA
(2) ANGOLA
(3) CEYLON
(4) GHANA
(5) GUINEA
(6) INDIA
(7) INDONESIA
(8) JAPAN
(9) KAMERUN
(10) KENYA
(11) KOREA
(12) LEBANON
(13) MONGOLIA
(14) MOZAMBIQUE
(15) NIGERIA
(16) PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
(17) SOUTH AFRICA
(18) SOUTH RHODESIA

(19) SUDAN
(20) TURKEY
(21) UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC
(22) U.S.S.R.
(23) VIETNAM

2) Functions:

It assumes the responsibilities of the Conference between the convocation of two conferences and has to undertake the preparations for the convocation of the conference. The Conference will convene once every two years and the Executive Committee once every year.

c- NEXT CONFERENCE:

The IIIrd Afro-Asian Writers' Conference thanks the Indonesian Delegation for its invitation to convene the Third Afro-Asian Writers Conference in Indonesia, accepts this invitation and instructs the Executive Committee in its next meeting to take the necessary steps for the implementation of this decision.

General Declaration Of The Afro-Asian Jurists' Conference* 15th - 20th October 1962 Conakry - Republic of Guinea

We, Afro-Asian Jurists, conscious of the common historical background which has determined the destiny of our peoples with similar colonial problems gather to contribute to solving the economic, political and social problems peculiar to Asia and Africa, reaffirm the necessity of this solidarity to restore the foundation of social justice, to restitute its power of improving society.

The concept of law which is contrary to universal justice, has been used to perpetuate colonialism and imperialism.

Our movement constitutes a just and legitimate reaction against these tragical iniquities which victimized the peoples of Asia and Africa, as well as other peoples of the world, for so long a time. Never in the life of mankind was justice more bluntly denied than it was by imperialism and colonialism.

The colonialists have substituted might for right; Law perse was used to promote discrimination and inhuman disqualifications.

Until today, juridical rules are still drawn from the very countries that were the sources of injustice and discrimination.

This is a challenge to Afro-Asian jurists. There must be a change. But we must remember that such evolution of law must be brought about by a political struggle.

* Aapso Publications (Without No.). "Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference"
*1st meeting was held in Damascus, Syria, 7-11 November.

We reaffirm our faith in the right of self-determination and we request an immediate application of this right without any limitation to all people who are deprived of it; and we condemn colonialism as a crime; we further assert that the existence and actions of colonialism and imperialism constitute the biggest illegality in the world today.

On the other hand, all struggles carried on by peoples for complete national independence, or for restoring their occupied territories or homelands, including the armed struggle, is entirely legal.

The Second Afro-Asian Jurists' Conference is held, in a situation where an intensified struggle of the peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, for complete national independence and world peace, is gaining momentum.

In the recent past, the heroic Algerian people after a long national liberation war, won a great victory and the peoples of Ruanda and Burundi and Uganda also proclaimed their independence. The Laotian people have come out victoriously in spite of the intervention of the imperialists.

The great national liberation movement has greatly weakened the forces of imperialism and shaken its foundation, and thus, making a fundamental contribution to the cause of peace, disarmament and progress.

Yet in spite of these victories, the Afro-Asian peoples must maintain vigilance and persist in the struggle, for the international imperialist front has not changed its nature, and is still committing the most heinous crimes against the peoples.

Imperialism proved to be the worst enemy of the peoples. Imperialism committed the biggest crimes in the world against the peoples, as we have witnessed in Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Bechuanaland, Swaziland, South Africa, South West Africa, Basutoland, Kenya, Angola, Congo,

Mozambique, Portuguese Guinea, Zanzibar and other dependent territories in Africa; also in Palestine, Aden, Alexandrette and occupied territories of South Arabia, South Vietnam, South Korea, Laos, Okinawa, Chinese territory of Taiwan, West Irian, Cuba, and other Latin American territories.

Moreover, the imperialists are using new tactics to cover up their machinations and deceive the peoples by means of implementing neo-colonialism over the newly independent countries, directly or indirectly through their stooges such as Israel. The Afro-Asian peoples are convinced that they possess the potential resources which have not been sufficiently exploited.

In developing their national economy for the consolidation of national independence, the Afro-Asian peoples are determined to be vigilant and to fight against the tactics of the neo-colonialists who in the name of economic "aid" and "associations" seek to regain the lost domination. The same objective is pursued by the neo-colonialist organisations acting under the mask of the "rule of law in the interest of peace".

The present situation imperatively demands that the peoples of Asia and Africa further unite and wage a continuous struggle against the policies of intervention, aggression, domination and war of imperialism, with NATO as its leader.

The imperialists and reactionaries from all countries who have established all kinds of aggressive military pacts and alliances such as SEATO, CENTO, NATO, ANZUS and NEATO, are carrying out criminal activities with ever-increasing intensity to oppose the national liberation movement.

Therefore, judging the present situation, we reaffirm again that the most urgent task of the Afro-Asian peoples is the struggle for complete national independence.

We, Afro-Asian jurists, fully conscious of being a component part of our peoples, are determined to be persistent in contributing to the maximum to the peoples, struggle for complete national

independence and progress, democracy and peace in the framework of the solidarity which unites us. We solemnly reaffirm our fidelity to the principles of peaceful co-existence between peoples, as recognised by the Bandung Conference.

We therefore appeal to all jurists of both continents of Asia and Africa, as well as the jurists the world over, to unite further and get mobilized in order to play a most decisive role in the establishment of a new and free concept of law and justice which completely reflects the true interests of the peoples.

National Independence and Sovereignty

- **The Afro-Asian Jurists Conference, meeting in Conakry from the 15th to 20th of October 1962,** stresses that it is the right of all countries to establish and safeguard national independence and sovereignty.

- Considering that the independence of a nation cannot be saguarded and consolidated:

1- When imperialists are carrying out intervention and subsersive activities in its country;

2- When foreign troops are stationed and military bases established on its territory, against its will;

3- When the remnants of imperialist and colonialist forces are not completely eliminated;

4- When it does not enjoy in political, military, economic and social fields, all attributes of national sovereignty.

5- When certain acts can be carried out in its name without its complete agreement;

6- When the fundamental liberties of man, as defined by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, are not respected.

- Considering that active solidarity of Afro-Asian peoples constitutes a powerful element in favour of their common struggle against imperialism, colonialism, old and new for national independence and sovereignty;

- Considering that all forms of political and economic

domination constitute a serious obstacle to the harmonious development of our states;

- Considering also that the existence or establishment or military bases on the territories of those states, aggravates international tension;

The Conference:

Denounces all interference in the internal affairs of states as being contrary to the 10 principles adopted by the Bandung Conference of 1955 as well as to the United Nations Charter;

Denounces the establishment of foreign military bases on the territory of Africa and Asia as a violation of sovereignty of those states and being harmful to odd peace;

Invites all jurists of African and Asia to struggle actively together, with their respective peoples, in order to safeguard national sovereignty, territorial integrity and to establish in the world between peoples, cooperation based on brotherhood and equality, which is an indispensable condition for the consolidation of peace, progress and prosperity.

The Afro-Asian jurists salute the victories achieved by the peoples of Algeria, Indonesia and Laos. They salute the people of Yemen in their courageous struggle for democracy and liberty.

The Conference expresses its active solidarity with the peoples of Angola, North and South Rhodesia, Mozambique, so-called Portuguese Guinea, Kenya, South Arabia (Aden) and other peoples in their struggle against colonialism and imperialism.

The Conference strongly condemns imperialism for interfering in the internal affairs of the Peopleâ?™s Republic of China by obstructing the Chinese people, from liberating their own territory, Taiwan, for its occupying Southern Korea by armed force and disrupting the peaceful reunification of the Southern and Northern parts of Korea, for its stationing troops in Japan, setting up a network of bases there and introducing nuclear weapons in preparation for a nuclear war, for its launching armed intervention

against South Vietnam. The Conference supports the South Vietnamese people in their struggle for the restoration of their full sovereignty and demands that the 1954 Geneva agreements on Indochina be strictly implemented.

The Conference, considering that the armament race constitutes a grave threat to the consolidation of independence and sovereignty of Afro-Asian peoples and to world peace, calls on all peace and freedom-loving peoples of the world to take united actions to struggle against the imperialist policies of aggression and war and for the realisation of disarmament. The Afro-Asian jurists are convinced that by struggling together with their peoples against foreign intervention, for the liquidation of foreign military bases, for the withdrawal of foreign troops for the abrogation of military pacts, and for winning and consolidating national independence, they can contribute effectively to the cause of world peace and to the achievement of general disarmament.

Conakry, October 20, 1962

Resolution On Racial Discrimination
The Second Conference of Afro-Asia Jurists' Conference

The Second Conference of Afro-Asian Jurists held at Conakry in the Republic of Guinea,

- Recalling that the First Afro-Asian Jurists Conference held in Damascus in 1957 passed resolutions denouncing racial discrimination and calling for an immediate abolition of this policy of human degradation;

- Noting that racial discrimination still exists in wide and varied forms in some countries of the world, particularly in South Africa, South West Africa, Southern Rhodesia, in the Portuguese colonies of Angola, Mozambique, United States of America, and that as a result indigenous citizens have been and are being denied political and economic rights, worse still, subjected to appalling social indignities;

- Realising that the basis of racial discrimination practised anywhere in the world has no scientific basis, but indulged in purely for social, political and economic advantages, that it is in flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the principles enunciated at the Bandung Conference, and that it constitutes a most serious threat to world peace, particularly in the form in which it is being ruthlessly pursued in South Africa, South West Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Portuguese Colonies of Angola, Mozambique and Portuguese Guinea;

HEREBY CONDEMNS unequivocally, and with any reserve whatsoever, all forms of racial discrimination and racial injustice and therefore reaffirms the following resolutions passed at the First Conference referred to above:

1- Every state should embody the basic rights proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in a written Constitutional Act without any discrimination at all.

2- Such act should be widely published, and its application be secured by people.

3- It should embody concrete constitutional and juridical guarantees.

4- These principles should be put into effect without any restriction unless dictated by the interest of the people, and should be justifiable by a judicial organ independent of executive and other powers and further:

RECOMMENDS

1- that the Jurists attending this conference recommend to the United Nations and urge all governments to apply economic and diplomatic sanctions against South Africa and Portugal, and to render both moral and material assistance to the Liberation or Nationalist Movements in these countries;

2- that all governments should ensure equal social, political and economic opportunities for all its citizens without any regard to the colour of their skin, and finally;

APPEALS

3- to all free peoples to unite resolutely against all practices of racial discrimination or racial bigotry and to work assiduously for the establishment of racial equality and racial harmony.

Declaration On Status Of Women
The Second Afro-Asian Jurists' Conference

We, the members of the Jurists' Conference, held at Conakry from October 15 to 20, 1962, have viewed with alarm and grave concern the unhappy and unfortunate position of women in so many states of Asia and Africa. Even in independent countries today, there linger attitudes towards women which involve their suppression from the common life of their countries, politically, socially and economically.

We would like to mention as examples Afghanistan, Jordan, Iran, Iraq, the Yemen, Libya, Nigeria, and Saudi Arabia. In some other countries, such as India, Ceylon and Indonesia, traditions that were set up in the era of imperialism, and even earlier, still maintain their stronghold. To break these various strongholds, of which the imperialist and colonialist stronghold is the most dominant in some countries, for example in South Vietnam and South Korea, should be the most serious task of this conference.

Let us remember that the full freedom and equality of women in all fields of life will be a consequence of many struggles that have still to be waged; the anti-imperialist struggle being the sternest that confronts us. The equality of rights for women is linked with the struggles against imperialism and colonialism and it is certain that the conquest of equality of rights is in many countries today linked closely with that struggle.

In addition, and as particular examples, let us note the essential struggles against the economic exploitation of women, the widespread educational work that will have to be done, the activity of enlightened states working with a full knowledge of all the many social obstacles that confront their full emancipation. We note with great pleasure the immense strides that have been taken in the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, in the U.A.R. and also in Guinea, our host country where the emancipation of women has come with the establishment of a government which is

both enlightened and determined.

In the light of the above considerations we propose the following recommendations:

1- That emphasis should be given in all countries, where women's freedom is an issue, to the basic conditions of freedom, political, social and economic, and to the overthrow of all forces; imperialist and otherwise which hinder their freedom.

2- That the principle of equality of women with men in all fields of life is fundamental.

3- That equality, political, social, and economic and also the fullest personal freedom as human beings should be regarded as the birthright of every women.

4- That the rights of marriage and divorce should be equal for men and women.

We would like to mention the following points in detail:

1- That the payment of law salaries to women should be abandoned.

2- That a civilized system of motherhood protection should be devised for all women, whether they are in employment or otherwise, and for women in employment special rights of paid vacations etc. for motherhood.

3- That the system of interference that exists in some countries with the freedom of women to contract marriages of their choice, should be destroyed by the policies of states and peoples.

4- That the system of paying dowries for marriage should he abandoned in so far as it constitutes a means of alienating women's rights.

Resolution On Civil Rights
The Second Afro-Asian Jurists' Conference

The Second Afro-Asian Jurists' Conference:

In view of the resolutions of the 1st Conference held in Damascus in November 1957.

Considering that the liberties proclaimed in the United Nations Charter, and confirmed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the General Assembly of United Nations in 1948, by the Bandung Conference in 1955, by the Convention on Women's Political Rights in 1952, by the resolution of U.N.O. at its 15th Session on the granting of independence to the colonial peoples (1961), constitute a vital necessity for an individuals and all countries without distinction, and having discussed the reports presented by the delegates.

Adopts the following resolutions:

a. The domination of Afro-Asian peoples by imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism constitutes a serious violation of the fundamental rights of the peoples.

The Conference wishes to draw attention to the following points:

1- The war of extermination conducted by the Portuguese government against the people of Angola.

2- The brutal tortures and the mass arrests carried out against the people of so-called Portuguese Guinea.

3- The policy of racial discrimination against the people of the Union of South Africa and of South West Africa.

4- The mass arrests and the unfair law suits, the prohibition of political activities and other measures aimed at abolishing completely the democratic liberties in South Korea.

5- The massacres, the unfair lawsuits (Le Quang Vinh case) mass arrests and concentration of people in detention camps in South Vietnam.

6- The unfair lawsuits in Japan (Matsukawa case and

Shiratori case), abolition or restriction of democratic liberties, particularly the military occupation of Okinawa.

7- The atrocities committed with impunity by foreign forces stationed in certain Arab Countries and especially in Palestine, Arab South, Oman, Aden, Alexanderetta and other places.

b. The main cause of these violations of human rights is the domination of Afro-Asian peoples by the imperialists who have deprived them of their national independence.

In particular, the peoples of Asian and African countries which are military occupied and controlled by imperialists are to a large extent deprived of their rights and their freedom.

c. Recently, the national liberation movements have been developing in a powerful way, while imperialists are increasingly isolated.

In face of this situation, the imperialists have carried out in an intensified way their policy aimed at abolishing the fundamental rights and suppressing the peoples.

The Conference demands:

a. The immediate cessation of imperialist actions against Afro-Asian peoples's National Liberation Movements.

b. The release of the many patriots who have been arrested or imprisoned because of their participation in national liberation movements.

c. The evacuation of imperialist military bases, and the realization of complete independence of Afro-Asian peoples.

The Conference calls on the peoples of Asia and Africa and all peace-loving and freedom-loving peoples of the world to solemnly condemn the above-mentioned violations and to struggle with the peoples who are their victims in order to put an end to these violations.

Consequently, the Conference puts forward the following recommendations:

1- Every state should sanctify the fundamental rights

proclaimed in the United Nations Charter, and confirmed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by a written constitutional text without any discrimination whatsover.

2- This text should be extensively distributed and its implementation should be controlled by the people. It should be endorsed with concrete constitutional and legal guarantees.

3- The Afro-Asian jurists assume very important tasks, not only the working out and the implementation of the national legislation, but also the active and objective participation in the defence of civil liberties, of national unity, of democratic legality and the development of a progressive legal consciousness.

The role of Afro-Asian jurists lies in the preserving and promoting, through constant contacts with the people, of material and moral progress.

4- Finally, witnessing that in countries still subjected to a direct or hidden foreign domination, violations of freedom and human rights are systematical, general and permanent, the Conference calls on the Afro-Asian members in the United Nations to work for the elimination of the colonial system and the defense of Human Rights.

5- Moreover, the Conference confirms that all aspects of freedom, especially freedom of speech, of press, of religion and particularly the natural right of the people to resist oppression and tyranny, should be explicitly recognised and jointly exercised by the Afro-Asian peoples.

Resolution on the role of Afro-Asian Jurists in the community

Whereas the Conference of Afro-Asian Jurists, held in Conakry from October 15 to 20, 1962, instructed the 4th Commission to study the following point and to report back to the Conference: The role of jurists in society and the attitude to be observed with respect to ideology and the neo-colonialist activities of organizations acting under the guise of the "Rule of Law";

Whereas the Commission met for this purpose and elected N. KUMARASINGH (Ceylon) Chairman, Sy Savane (Guinea) Co-Chairman, Prof. Hasegawa (Japan) Secretary, and F. Ola Giwa (Nigeria) and Marcel Martin (Guinea) Co-Secretaries;

Whereas the delegations of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Ceylon, Syria, U.A.R., U.S.S.R., China, Japan and Lebanon contributed to the work of the Commission by submitting reports and also by taking part in its deliberations; and

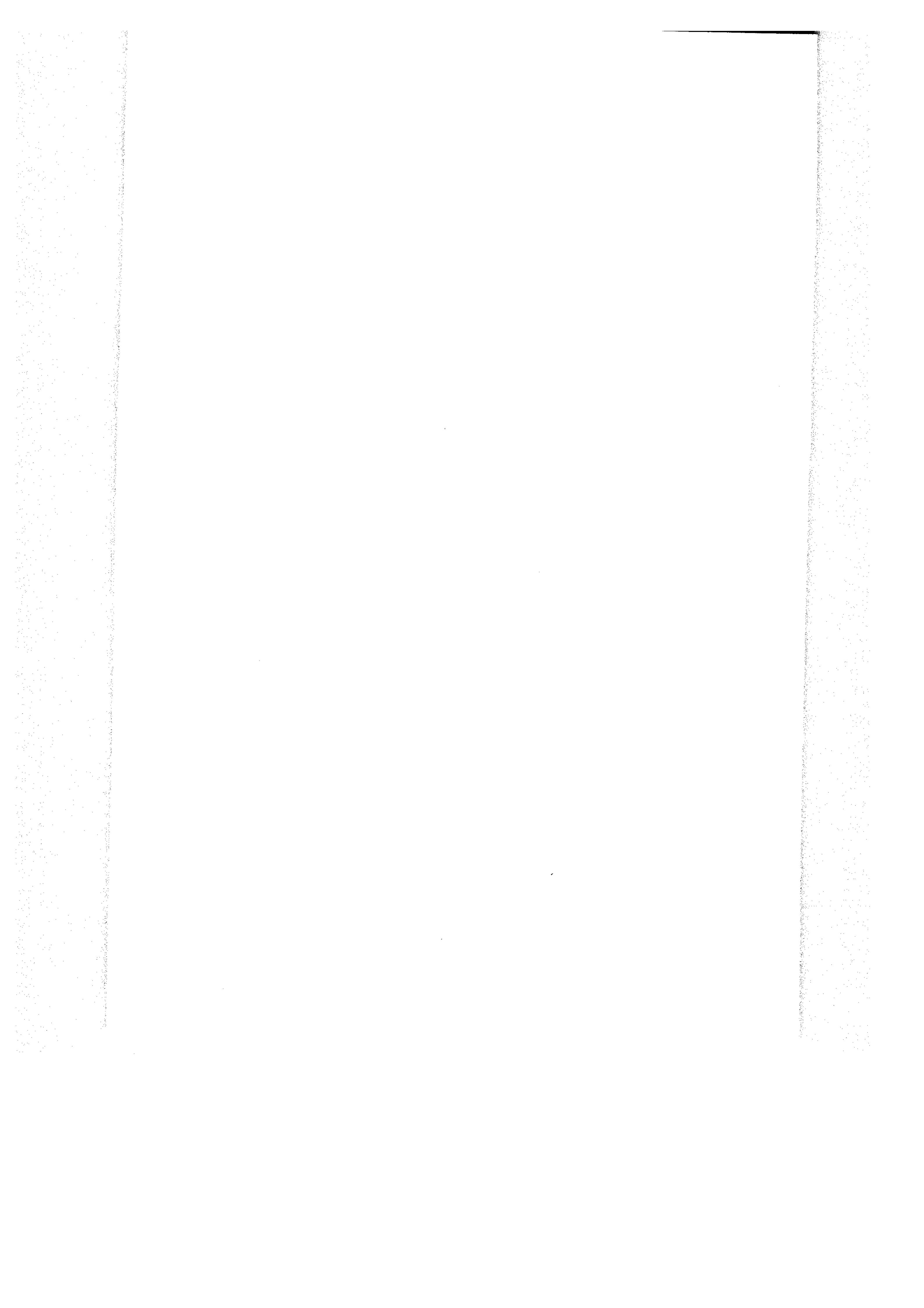
Whereas following the discussion, the Commission unanimously decided to submit to the Plenary Session of the Conference the following resolution;

The Conference resolves;

1. That the task of Afro-Asian jurists at the present time is to participate in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism, both old and new, throughout the entire world and more particularly in Asia and in Africa, and for complete national independence, democracy and peace putting to use all their legal ability and knowledge;
2. That in order to succeed in this task, we Afro-Asian jurists must lay bare the activities and the organizations of the imperialists and the colonialists in their attempt to push through their distorted and slanted interpretation of the "rule of law" or any other concept of law which only serves to perpetuate colonialism and neo-colonialism;
3. That the colonial juridical system be abolished and in its place be created a juridical system which will uphold national independence and state sovereignty and which conforms to the interests of the people.

Chapter III

AAPSO Constitution



AAPSO Constitution*

Some Introductory Remarks

In the founding Conference of AAPSO held in Cairo, December 1957, rules and regulations guiding the functioning of the organization were adopted.

The formal constitution was, however, adopted at the Second Congress of AAPSO held in Conkakry, April 1960.

It was amended at the Eleventh Council meeting of AAPSO in March 1974, held in Baghdad.

The Thirteenth Council meeting held in Aden 1981 adopted a resolution of constitutional character and elected a constitutuinal committee to examine the existing constitution and suggest appropriate ammendments. The present draft, placed before the VI Congress of AAPSO in Algiers, is the result of the work of the committee.

Preamble:

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) is a mass solidarity movement of and for the peoples of Africa and Asia in the common struggle for the elimination of the last vestiges of colonialism, for the consolidation of genuine

* Afro-Asian Publications (149).

independence and the defence of sovereignty, against neocolonialism, and for economic security, for the right to choose their own way of socioeconomic development, for the promotion of national culture, for a non-violent world and for general disarmament, international security and lasting peace.

As a non-governmental pluralist and democratic organization, AAPSO, based on the principles of Bandung and the Non-Aligned Movement, is an integral part of the anti-imperialist and peace-loving forces for the democratization of international relations; the establishment of the New International Economic Order and the New International Information and Communication Order, for upholding human rights and for the protection of environment.

Article I: Name of the Organization:

The name of the Organization is:

THE AFRO-ASIAN PEOPLES' SOLTDARTTY ORGANIZATION hereinafter referred to as "the AAPSO".

Article 2: Objectives of the Organization:

1. To unite, consolidate and accelerate actions of solidarity with the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid, Zionism, fascism and reaction; and to provide all-out moral, political and material support to the struggle for freedom, self-determination and national independence.

2. To act in an interdependent world, in support of the principles of the United Nations Charter and of the Non-Aligned Movement and to strengthen cooperation of the AAPSO with the UN and the Non-Aligned Movement and with the other governmental and nongovernmental organizations that act for the same objectives.

3. To mobilize the peoples of Africa, Asia and other developing countries, progressive and democratic forces all over the world, against the imperialist policy of destabilization, against military

pacts, blocs, bases and facilities.

4. To rally against imperialism and neocolonialism, against exploitation, to overcome backwardness, for economic security, for the implementation of the New International Economic Order, for the sovereign right of peoples over their national resources and to bring about socio-economic transformations.

5. To strengthen the struggle for just and lasting peace and security, stopping the arms' race, for nuclear and complete disarmament, and for development.

6. To safeguard, respect and uphold human rights, equal rights for women and special protection of the child, to support the struggle for democracy and for the promotion of the democratic solution of the conflicts of nationalities and minorities.

7. To resolve international, regional and national conflicts by peaceful means, in the spirit of solidarity against imperialism and on the basis of national reconciliation.

8. To support achievement and consolidation of their national unity within the Afro-Asian countries, and to frustrate all imperialist attempts to create disruption and dissension in the ranks of anti-imperialist forces and organizations.

9. To resist the imperialist cultural invasion against the African and Asian peoples, and to facilitate a wide exchange of experiences in the anti-imperialist struggle, for socioeconomic and cultural development and for a New International Information and Communication Order as well as to deepen cooperation and mutual assistance among nations and among democratic organizations for the realization of these goals.

10. To support the independent anti-imperialist policy of the Afro-Asian States, organizations and forces which seek to counteract the imperialist political, economic, social and cultural infiltration.

11. To work, while retaining its own identity, for the activisation of the struggle of the masses and mass organizations, for

establishing and consolidating the alliance of the progressive, national and democratic forces within each of the Afro-Asian countries and among the Afro-Asian peoples, and the peoples of the world.

12. To work for the protection of environment and for the safeguarding of the ecological resources of our planet.

Article 3: Membership:

1. Membership of the AAPSO consists of Afro-Asian Solidarity Committees, Peace and Solidarity Committees and National Liberation Movements. In the absence of such national committees, political parties and other national organizations, in Africa and Asia, as the case may be, committed to the principles and objectives of the AAPSO can be considered for membership.

2. Member organizations shall constitute the basic units of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization.

3. Each country shall be represented in the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization by one organization. However, in certain cases and under particular political conditions, a country concerned may be represented by more than one organization. The new organization shall be granted membership according to the same rules and measures observed in the admission of member-organizations and enjoys the same rights and obligations. The Permanent Secretariat and member organizations shall exert all efforts for the unification of the broadcast forces committed to the AAPSO principles in their countries and to form one solidarity committee in each country.

4. Upon receiving an application for membership, the Permanent Secretariat shall consider the application and submit it with sufficient data to the Presidium for necessary action. In the event the application is recommended by the Permanent Secretariat for admission, the nominee will attend the various meetings of the AAPSO on a temporary basis until the Presidium

finally endorses the new affiliation as a member.

5. Admission, suspension, or expulsion of a member organization shall be decided by the Presidium by a two-third majority vote.

6. Associate membership is open to anti-imperialist groups and solidarity organizations, outside Africa and Asia, which work for and are committed to the principles of the AAPSO and which seek to unify the democratic forces in their countries on the basis of militant solidarity against imperialism. The associate members will have all the rights of full members. However they will not be entitled to seek election for the post of the President and Secretary-General.

7. The status of observer shall be granted to national or international organizations, support-groups, trade-unions; youth, women; writers' and other political, economic, social or public organizations, regardless of their geographical affiliation, whose activities correspond with the principles, objectives and purposes of the AAPSO.

8. The status of guest invited to AAPSO meetings shall be granted to prominent personalities, leading members or representatives of national and international organizations as decided by the Permanent Secretariat, in each specific case.

9. Observers and guests have the right to attend AAPSO meetings and participate in discussion, but they do not have the right to vote.

Article 4: Constitutional Organs of AAPSO:

The Organization shall comprise:

I- The Congress

2- The Presidium

3-The Bureau of the Presidium

4- The Permanent Secretariat

Article 5: The Congress:

1. The Congress of the AAPSO is the supreme authority of the Organization. It is the only body empowered to introduce amendments to the Constitution. It has the full competence to decide on all political, organizational and financial matters of the AAPSO. It shall determine the AAPSO strategic platform and programme of action.

2. The Congress shall be composed of member-and associate-member organizations which constitute the basic units of the AAPSO; and shall be attended by observers and guests.

3. All resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Congress shall be binding to constitutional organs of the AAPSO and shall guide the action of the member- and associate-member organizations.

4. The Congress elects:

-The President of AAPSO

-The Secretary-General of AAPSO

-The Vice-Presidents of AAPSO

-The Bureau of the Presidium

- Members of the Permanent Secretariat.

The Congress shall ratify and/or amend what the Presidium has previously adopted with regard to the following:

a) the list of member organizations,

b) the list of associate member organizations. and

c) the list of observer.

5. The quorum for the convocation of the Congress shall be reached by the attendance of the simple majority of member and associate-member organizations.

6. Each delegation of the member-or associate-member organizations to the Congress shall have one vote. Participants in the Congress shall seek unanimity on all issues. However all Congress documents shall he adopted by a simple majority of the votes of the member- and associate-member organizations

participating in the Congress. Issues related to membership and to the amendment of the Constitution shall be resolved by a two-third majority vote.

7. The political-organizational report of the Permanent Secretariat of the AAPSO as well as its proposals for future programmes of action, shall be considered the working documents of the Congress.

8. Only the Congress shall have the right to elect the President of the AAPSO from the prominent personalities of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement, on the nomination of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee of the country of the Headquarters of the AAPSO. Only the Congress has right to adopt a resolution on changing the country of the headquarters of the AAPSO on the proposal of the AAPSO Permanent Secretariat and the recommendation of the Presidium. The Congress decision in this respect shall be adopted by a two-third majority.

9. The Congress shall elect the Secretary General of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization on the nomination of the Presidium, from the prominent personalities of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement.

10 The Congress may elect as Vice-Presidents, preferably by name, a suitable number of prominent personalities from member organizations on recommendation of the organizations concerned, and taking into consideration geo-political factors.

11. The Congress elects Deputy Secretaries-General and a number of Secretaries from member and associate member organizations, taking into account geo-political considerations.

12. The Congress may request some prominent Afro-Asian personalities to be patrons of the movement.

13. The Congress shall be convened every four years.

14. An Emergency Congress of AAPSO shall be convened on the request of the simple majority of member-organizations of AAPSO.

When the Congress is in session, the Bureau shall act as the Steering Committee which shall decide on all its procedures, including the agenda, time-table, commissions, election of officers of the Congress and participation.

Article 6: The Presidium:

1. The Presidium is a highly representative coordinating organ of AAPSO. The Presidium shall be composed of the President, the Secretary General, the Vice-Presidents of AAPSO, members of the Permanent Secretariat and heads of all national Solidarity Committees or their representatives.

Prominent leaders and outstanding personalities of the movement may be included in the Presidium, by the Congress, with the consent of their national committees.

2. The Presidium may make amendments and supplements to political and socio-economic programme and the programme of action of the AAPSO adopted by the previous Congress, in accordance with changing conditions and in harmony with the basic objectives of the AAPSO.

3. The Presidium decides, by two-third majority of members present and voting, the issues of membership in the AAPSO, on the basis of information submitted by the Permanent Secretariat.

4. The decisions of the Presidium based on one vote for one national committee are binding to the Permanent Secretariat and constitute a guiding line to the AAPSO national committees

5. The Presidium adopts:

a) The political report of the Permanent Secretariat as the working paper for its session.

b) The financial report of the Permanent Secretariat and the estimated budget of the AAPSO for the following year.

c) The list of member organizations.

d) The list of associate members.

e) The list of observers.

6. The session of the Presidium shall normally be held once every two years. The Permanent Secretariat calls an emergency Presidium meeting when it deems it necessary.

7. The quorum of the Presidium is the simple majority. All documents shall be adopted by the simple majority.

8. The Presidium may establish specialized committees on various aspects of AAPSO activities. The Vice-Presidents should lead these specialized committees.

9. When the Presidium is in session, the Presidium Bureau assumes the task of the Steering Committee.

10. An Emergency Presidium Meeting is empowered by the Congress to meet in the situation stipulated in the article 8 para 6 of this Constitution.

Article 7: The Presidium Bureau:

1. The Bureau consists of the President, the Secretary-General, the Vice-Presidents, (the heads or their representatives of associate members, elected by the Congress) and the delegation of the Permanent Secretariat of the AAPSO. A limited number of personalities of the movement may be invited to attend the meetings of the Bureau.

2. The Bureau of the Presidium reviews the development of events between two sessions of the Presidium and gives its guidance to the Permanent Secretariat on question of policy.

3. The Bureau is convened twice a year on the invitation of the Permanent Secretariat.

Article 8: The Permanent Secretariat:

1. The Congress elects the Permanent Secretariat, which is composed of the President, the Secretary General, as well as Deputy Secretaries-General and a number of Secretaries representing member and associate member organizations taking into consideration geo-political factors.

2. a) The Permanent Secretariat is the political executive which shall directly implement all the decisions of the AAPSO and its programme of action.

b) The quorum of the Permanent Secretariat is the simple majority and voting is by the simple majority.

3. The Permanent Secretariat shall be fully accountable to the Congress and the Presidium.

4. The President of the AAPSO shall be the head of the Permanent Secretariat; he is the highest executive personality of the AAPSO and the spokesman of the Permanent Secretariat.

5. The Secretary General shall coordinate all the activities of the Permanent Secretariat and lead its work.

6. a) In the absence of the President for any reason, the Secretary General takes over his function.

b) The Congress authorizes and empowers the Presidium to meet in an emergency situation and to elect the President and/or the Secretary General in case of resignation, incapacitation or demise of either or both of them.

c) Until the election takes place, the President or Secretary General takes over the functions of the vacant post.

The Permanent Secretariat is mandated by the Congress to convene such an emergency meeting of the Presidium within a period not exceeding three months from the date of such eventuality /eventualities.

d) The election of President, and/or Secretary General in an emergency Presidium meeting of AAPSO will be constitutionally valid.

The quorum for such a Presidium meeting should be two-thirds of its members.

7. On the decision of the Permanent Secretariat at any member or associate member organization of the AAPSO may send its representative to the Permanent Secretariat as an observer and shall pay all expenses of his stay in the AAPSO headquarters.

8. The Permanent Secretariat prepares the meetings of the Bureau, the Presidium and the Congress.

9. The Permanent Secretariat appoints the Editorial Board of the AAPSO publications.

10. The Permanent Secretariat provides the administrative and technical machinery required by the meetings of the AAPSO on all levels, and it keeps records of these meetings.

Article 9: Finances:

1. The Organization shall be financed by the subscriptions of member and associate member organizations and by the contributions offered by the friendly organizations, observers or individuals that support the objectives and purposes of the AAPSO.

2. Each member-organization and associate-member organization of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization shall pay a minimum annual subscription of five thousand US dollars, the equivalent or in other forms.

3. The National Liberation Movements members of the AAPSO, may be exempted from payment of annual subscriptions.

4. Both the budget submitted by the Permanent Secretariat and the report related to it shall comprise at least the following items:

a) list of the total incoming contributions and subscriptions.

b) expenses incurred by the Permanent Secretariat in the implementation of its programme of action.

c) expenses incurred by the meetings and conferences of the AAPSO.

d) normal expenses of the Permanent Secretariat.

e) complementary budgets of the specialized AAPSO centres.

f) proposals for consolidating the financial position of the Organization and data on the implementation of previous proposals in this connection.

Article 10: The AAPSO Specialized Centres:

1. The AAPSO, on decision of the Congress, the Presidium or Bureau, shall constitute specialized centres on geographic or functional basis.

2. Depending on the requirements of the movement the Permanent Secretariat will undertake to establish research groups as and when necessary.

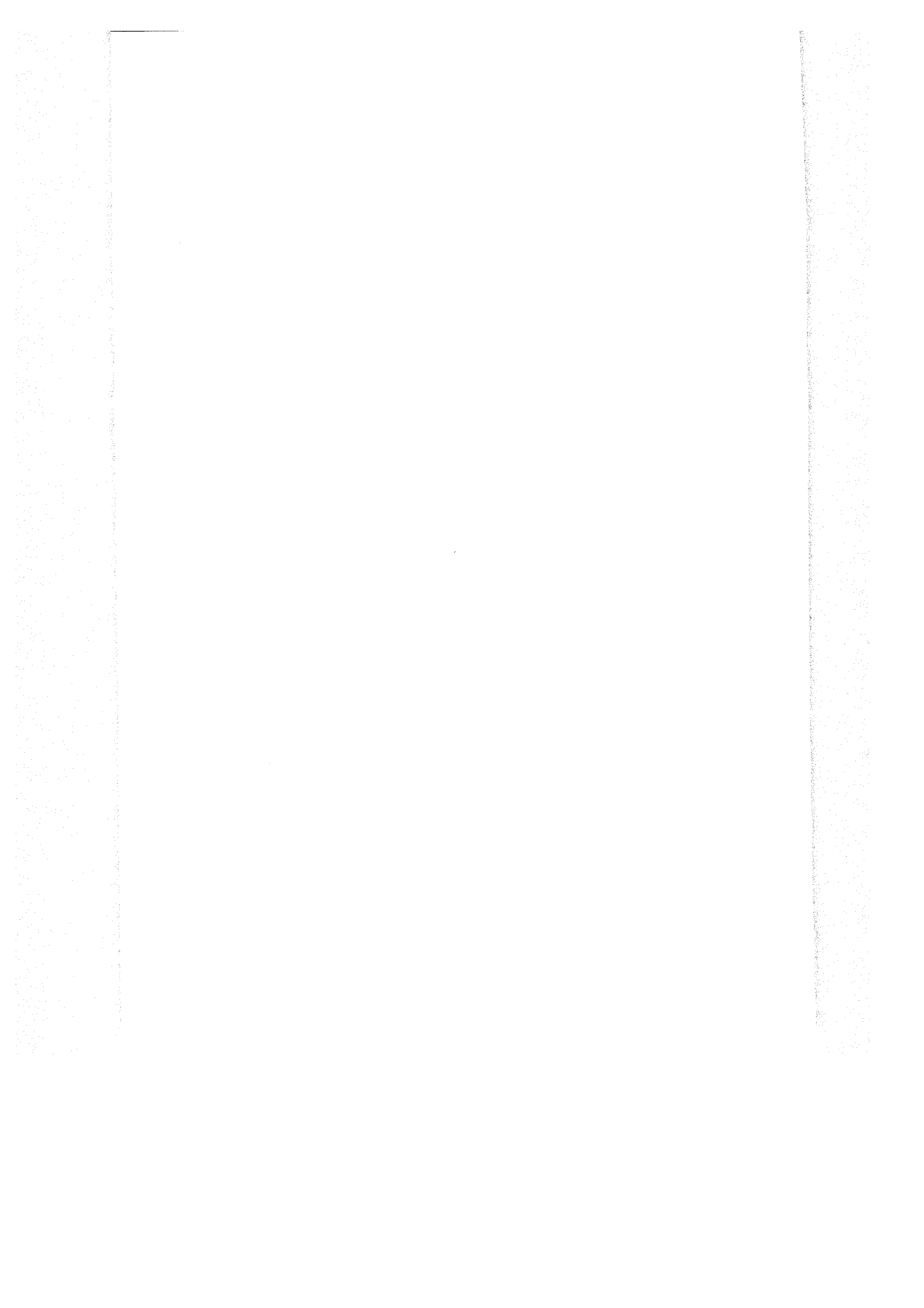
3. An internal regulation pertaining to each centre shall be endorsed by the Bureau and ratified by the Presidium.

Article 11:

The official languages of the AAPSO are English, French and Arabic.

Chapter IV

Testimonies



Dr. Samandar Kalandarov*

Road Of 50 Years Long

This modest house in Cairo on the coast of mighty Nile is well known far outside of Egypt and even outside of Africa. More than 50 years the headquarters of the democratic movement – of the Afro-Asian Peoples` Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) – Permanent Secretariat is situated here. It is connected by invisible strings with more than hundred national solidarity committees, political parties, public and governmental international organizations. This house was witness of numerous meetings and negotiations, conferences and seminars. The strategy and tactics of struggle for liberation of peoples oppressed by foreign enslavers, against racism and apartheid were worked out here. Representatives of national liberation movements, parties and organizations of many countries visited often this house. Among them the young leaders of the liberation struggle passed here the school of political solidarity. Many of them after achieving independence became leading figures in their countries.

This house is especially close and dear to me. I have spent here more than 20 years, working shoulder to shoulder with the colleagues on struggle for noble aims for liberation of peoples from colonial enslavement. I am proud of that also my efforts

* Deputy Secretary General

devoted to the great victory of people, achieved decay and liquidations of shameful colonial system.

Today, marking the significant date of the 50 anniversary of AAPSO foundation, we recall in our memory our comrades on struggle who are not present now among us, who have donated their life to bring the happy future for peoples. Some of them were killed by hands of mean mercenaries, by hands of terrorists. We remember for ever names of Yuosef es Sebai, first leader of AAPSO, well known writer and state figure, of Abdurahman ash Sharkavy, talented writer, Dr. Murad Ghaleb, former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt,as well as fighters for freedom Che Guevara, Edward Mondlane, Ahmed Ben Barka and many others.

Years have passed. Tens of young independent states have appeared on the map of the planet on a place of colonies. Nevertheless, AAPSO even today preserves its importance and a tuality not less than in past as a factor uniting the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America with the aim of joint opposition to the challenges of the present. The progressive public of the world highly appreciates the role of AAPSO in consolidation of world democratic forces to prevent a threat of nuclear war, to settle regional conflicts. Coordinating the activity of more than 80 national solidarity organizations, AAPSO has convened numerous peaceful actions which, undoubtedly, are heard in all corners of the earth.

Since 1970, I was entrusted to represent the Soviet committee of solidarity of Asia and Africa countries. I felt the special responsibility as multimillion Soviet public was one of the most advanced and active detachments of the Afro-Asian solidarity movement. After the disintegration of Soviet Union, I am representing the successor of the Soviet committee - the Russian society of solidarity and co-operation of the peoples of Asia and Africa (RSSCPAA). On the AAPSO Congress in Delhi I have been

elected as the AAPSO Deputy Secretary General.

The foreign policy of the USSR and Russia always remain on the humanistic position – on the establishments of social justice, democratic values, securing of equality between the states. USSR has rendered strong support to Vietnam in the struggle against USA aggression , helped people of Asia and Africa to achieve independence, against racism and apartheid. The problem of settlement in the Near-East was constantly considered by USSR and later by Russia as the prime problem to be solved fast and on justice way. Soviet Union and Russia were and remain true friend to people defending peace, justice, democracy and security on the earth.

Russia and Soviet Union never were colonial empires. Soviet Union has spent huge efforts to raise the living level of the poorest people of the southern region, such as the states of the Central Asia, Caucasus. For the short historical period they have grown from backward feudal states to the highly developed republics surpassing on many economic and cultural parameters the advanced countries of the Western Europe.

For example, Republic of Uzbekistan, I am originated from. Before the Great October socialist revolution there were here few elementary schools, and the industry consisted from small oil factories. During the Soviet power, hundreds of modern schools, hospitals, more than 40 high schools were created in this Central Asia Republic. The Academy of Sciences effectively functions in Uzbekistan. Here was created one of the first in the world Scientific Research Institute of nuclear physics with the synchrophasotron. Tens of industrial enterprises equipped by the most advanced machines are constructed here. The Republic began to produce tractors, various machines, and passenger and cargo airplanes. Now, the Republic is producing gold, oil, gas, metal. The agriculture reached an intensive development. Millions tons of cotton, a plenty of wheat, rice, vegetables and fruit are

annually grown up here. The Republic has an opera and ballet theatre, many drama theatres. Uzbekistan today is the independent subject of the international relations.

The similar transition from backwardness to the modern civilized lives has made former Soviet Asian and Caucasian republics - Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Turkministrant, Azerbaijan and others.

In this connection, it would be possible to interpret the disintegration of the Soviet Union from a new point of view. Namely, to not dramatize too much this event. It can be considered not as a tragedy and disorder of superpower, but as the natural process of transition, certain by history, to a new higher stage of independent development. It is logical process of self-determination of the nations which have reached high political and economic stability. Russia has helped them to rise firmly on legs and now left them for independent development. This reflected the practical continuation of international traditions of Russia and the USSR.

Soviet Union always acted in the forefront struggle against colonialism and racism. The USSR per 1960 has proposed in the United Nations Organization the project of the Declaration on granting independence to the colonial countries and people and insisted on the adoption of the UN resolution on liquidation of foreign military bases on colonial territories. USSR and Russia always rendered huge and often disinterested support and help to the developing countries and people. They constructed by means of Soviet Union in the Arab Republic of Egypt Aswan High Dam, an aluminum factory in Naghamady, the Heluan metallurgical combine, erected in India Bhilay metallurgical complex and many other industrial subjects in the countries of Asia and Africa are well known in the world.

Russia like the USSR before very interested in the prompt restoration and a deepening political, economic, cultural and other

interrelations with the Afro-Asian world.

The public of the USSR on behalf of the Soviet solidarity committee was one of the most dynamic participants of the international Afro-Asian solidarity movement.The committee has used to receive in the USSR hundreds of delegations from the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Annually conferences, multilateral meetings, scientific symposiums on vital topics of developing countries were convened with their participation. These actions, sometimes, took place in the Soviet republics of the central Asia and Caucasus where foreign participants simultaneously could get acquainted particularly with a wide experience of solving economic, political, and cultural and other problems. Soviet and now Russian solidarity committees rendered and renders to the people of developing countries not only morally and political help, but also material support. The Soviet committee of solidarity paid big attention to preparation of young professionals in developing countries. Thousand free-of-charge scholarships for studying in high schools of the USSR annually were granted to these countries.

The Soviet solidarity committee regularly contributed great annual payments to the AAPSO budget and with numerous aviation tickets.

After some decrease in activity during the post Soviet period the successor of the Soviet solidarity committee - the Russian society of solidarity and cooperation of people of Asia and Africa renews the foreign policy and organizational activity. It started the regular exchange of delegations for discussion of actual problems of the present and for exchange of experience. Free-of-charge grants are again given to the young generation of third world countries. Russian society arranging meetings, seminars concerning, Afro-Asian problems.

In December 2006, the international conference, devoted to the 50 anniversary of the Soviet solidarity committee took place in

Moscow. Delegations from foreign countries have taken part in it, including the delegation from AAPSO led by AAPSO President Dr. Murad Ghaleb.

Thus, the Russian public increasing its participation in the Afro-Asian solidarity movement, deeply understanding its historical value for the destinies of the people of developing countries, for all peace-loving mankind.

AAPSO passed a long way of 50 years, marked by a historical victory – utter defeat of colonial system. There is no doubt, that this international democratic movement will further serve for strengthening of unity and cooperation between people, for their prosperity, for peace and security in the world.

The solidarity movement still preserves inexhaustible potential for the international coordination of interaction of efforts of developing countries in the sanction of many problems facing them. AAPSO always was and remains one of powerful cores of integration processes, promoting the world social and economic progress directed on radical reorganization of international relations, counteraction of expansions.

Mission of the Afro-Asian solidarity movement does not come to an end with liquidation of colonial system. It has still to assist to strengthening of independence of the young states, to growth of their economy, to effectively oppose to the continuous attempts of the West with new colonial methods to exploit raw materials and manpower resources of developing countries. Quite often West with this purpose try to use power actions as it happened with occupation of Iraq by United States.

Ahead it is a lot of work. One of mainstreams of the activity of the AAPSO Permanent Secretariat should become a wide popularization of importance of the Afro-Asian solidarity movement today. AAPSO for example still poorly uses its unique reserves - possession of the observer status in the United Nations, League of the Arab States, UNESCO, Movement of

Non-alignment etc. The other international public forums have not such seldom opportunity. Participation of AAPSO delegations in the international meetings of these authoritative world structures is especially important. It opens rare opportunity to meet with leaders of the Afro-Asian states to negotiate with them in order to precise the present main problems of developing countries, to consult regarding the best way to adopt the AAPSO program to the rapidly changing geopolitical situation in the world and to request these leaders to give political and material support for the solidarity movement.

Dr.Alexander Dzasokhov*

Looking Back At The Fifty-years History

The Second World War was the period of rapid upsurge of anti-colonial and general democratic movement of the peoples of Asia and Africa. The fight against colonialism took multiple forms, from organized to spontaneous. There were different slogans and programmes of movements which united numerous anti-imperialist parties, organizations and factions such as national revolutionary, communist, national reformist and others. The national independence at the state level was the main objective of the liberation movement in Asia and Africa. The continuous growth of political consciousness of the masses, its aspiration for joint actions in its fight against colonialism and imperialism, warfare policy and aggression consolidated increasingly the national liberation forces and in the long run enhanced the international basis for Afro-Asian solidarity. The Delhi Asian Relations Conference held from March 23 till April 2, 1947, became a historic milestone on the way to consolidating efforts of the oppressed peoples in decolonization, development of friendly relations and cooperation for peace, recovery and progress. Over 250 delegates representing more than half of the global population gathered in the Indian capital that had not gained its full independence at that time. In his inaugural speech, Jawaharlal

* Former President of the North Ossetia of the Russian Federation, the Former First Vice-President of the Soviet AAPSO, Doctor of Political Science, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

Nehru said that Asia "stands... on the threshold of a new period of history" and should "assume her rightful place with the other continents" and that the conference itself, the idea of which arose in the minds of peoples of the continent who became aware that the time had come "to hold together and to advance together", serves "to lay the foundation of our mutual progress, well-being and friendship". He emphasized the historic significance of the conference as never before had such a gathering met together at any place. Addressing the participants to the conference, the Indian leader called them for focusing their efforts on maintaining peace, freedom and independence. He stated that "when the history of our present times is written, this event may well stand out as a landmark which divides the past of Asia from the future. And because we are participating in this making of history, something of the greatness of historic events comes to us all." The history proved how far-reaching these ideas were. Proposed by Jawaharlal Nehru for almost half a century ago, the strategy of better and developed friendly relations, joint and consolidated actions taken by the suppressed countries for the sake of their freedom and independence awoke a thankful echo in the hearts of the continent's peoples and was implemented in the whole range of important and outstanding actions at the international level. In contrast to the common efforts of the Western powers that established a number of military blocks, including NATO, CTO and SEATO, there was an organized movement of national anti-imperialist forces of Afro-Asian peoples. Its activities followed two major lines: development of interstate relations put on the road by the Bandung Conference and consolidation of national progressive political parties and democratic public organizations of the countries of the region.

A specific objective of the post-war Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement evolution was to develop a really mass movement which would gather peoples from two continents for the

sake of unity, solidarity and cooperative work of all anti-colonial, all-democratic and progressive powers and rethink the past crucially to avoid left extremist and right nationalist views. At the time of global war against the colonial system, there was a challenge of establishing organizationally and politically large-scale national liberation movement which would involve not only popular workforce but give an active role to the representatives of the revolutionary democracy, middle class population from towns and villages, as well as groups of national bourgeoisie with patriotic views.

The metropolis powers viewed the simultaneous emergence of the Solidarity Movement at the state and public levels with unveiled hostility. The idea of convening the Bandung Conference brought a particularly negative response from the ruling circles of the USA, England and other Western powers. They invested a lot of efforts to channel the emerging movement to abstract discussions which were beneficial to them, to interfere with the aspiration of the decolonized peoples for unity. But these were lost efforts. The solidarity movement of the peoples of African and Asian countries was born in the context of greater public and political efforts of the suppressed people and a new wave of national liberation revolutions. Bandung was not an exception. Shortly before the Bandung Conference, from 6 to 10 April, 1955, Delhi hosted a political conference of the Asian community which gathered representatives of 14 countries of the region. This conference played an important role in uniting the progressive forces of the continent. In its decisions, the Conference expressed the common aspiration for strengthening the liberation unity and solidarity of peoples in fighting against the policy of external aggression and colonial slavery. The Conference became the first major forum of the solidarity movement of Asian people to address the communities of different countries with the idea to start creating national solidarity committees.

In late 1956, the representatives of a number of newly established national solidarity committees gathered in Delhi. It was decided to send a mission to Egypt to discuss with the representatives of the Egyptian community the issue of enlarging the scope of the first Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity conference which meant to be held in Cairo. This proposal was actively supported by the national patriotic forces of the African continent.

In December 1957, the Cairo foundation Conference started the union of different political parties, mass organizations and national liberation movements and established the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO).

The Cairo Conference demonstrated the spirit of brotherhood and unity in addressing all the issues on the agenda. It became an important stage on the way to strengthening solidarity of the peoples of two continents. The union of Afro-Asian democratic and anti-imperialist forces was supported by outstanding leaders such as Jawaharlal Nehru, Ahmed Sukarno, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Ahmed Seku Ture, Kwame Nkruma and others. Since its early years, the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement took the anti-colonial and anti-imperialist attitude and was supported morally and politically as well as materially by socialist countries, international workers' movement, progressive and democratic organizations. Notwithstanding certain recent judgments, this international support cannot be qualified as some form of Soviet subversive activities abroad. In fact, at stake was the implementation of basic principles of the worldwide decolonization set forth in the UN Charter.

It is notable that the AAPSO evolved and grew strong along with the consolidation of efforts of independent States of two continents in addressing the core problems of the world policy in the interests of peace, international security and strengthened political independence. The relations between the AAPSO and national governments of the majority of the region's countries

grew more and more constructive. This fact demonstrated the objective combination of basic purposes and tasks of the solidarity movement as well as progressive foreign policy course of the majority of free countries. The objective and durable foundation of such unity underlies anti-colonialism and progressive nationalism, commitment to the ideals of national liberty and social progress. The AAPSO worked for uniting various national liberation flows in its practice as well. Thus while carrying out its political activities, the Solidarity Movement suffered considerable changes in terms of its composition and social basis. The differentiated and radicalized social forces within the national liberation movement led to the growth of AAPSO ideological and political capacities. The movement was significantly enlarged due to patriotic parties, most active national solidarity organizations with different levels of their political and economic tasks but with common idea to struggle vigorously for national independence and social progress.

At the early stage already, the AAPSO parties and organizations became a sort of front or union of national patriotic forces. Intensified were the activities of the mass working populations. Strengthened were the positions of progressive forces. These changes in the social core provoked the enhancement of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement, its growth in size (in terms of class component) and in nature (in terms of radicalization of its objectives and organizational consolidation). That is why the Solidarity Movement greatly influenced the international relations and internal political life of a number of countries. The AAPSO transformed step-by-step into organizational form of unification of public anti-colonial forces which supported the stabilized national independence and social progress. Since its beginning, the AAPSO's basic task was, inter-alia, to neutralize various chauvinistic, international and great-power feelings.

On their way to unity, different AAPSO groups went through many difficulties caused by the attempts of the reactionary forces

and its aligning extremist, chauvinist and racist blocks to isolate peoples from international anti-colonial solidarity. However, in general, the Solidarity Movement in cooperation with other international democratic organizations managed to extinguish these phenomena, overcome these obstacles with different degrees of success. All in all, the AAPSO was moving towards the accomplishment of its historical mission through its remarkable influence on the progress of the whole national liberation struggle and decolonization. This organization promoted further building of political consciousness and consolidation of ideas of international solidarity, cooperation and friendship of peoples. There is no doubt that, be it never so downgraded by other "democratic" political analysts, the AAPSO experience is one of the most significant achievements of the Post-war decolonization process and revival of the suppressed nations. It is the practice of this extraordinary movement that confirmed the objective necessity as well as possibility of the efficient cooperation of peoples in their sacred war for rectification of injustice and sovereignty in international relations.

Today, when the peoples of Asia and Africa celebrate the 50th anniversary of the AAPSO, we, all those who aligned ourselves with this organization for decades, ask ourselves, whether the AAPSO has run its course or has its future. As a person who dedicated many years to the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement and represented the Soviet Solidarity Committee to the AAPSO with the right to speak on behalf of the great power, I would answer that the AAPSO has its future. The task is to demonstrate our political will together, unite our efforts and find our place in this globalizing world using new scientific achievements and information potential. The main thing is to protect the interests of the peoples of the postcolonial world.

Modern Russia, Russia of the President Putin era, will continue to support consistently the peoples of Asia and Africa and enlarge the scope of mutual cooperation in this direction.

Mr.Toshio Akiniwa*

In Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary Of Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) -- My Life with Japan,Asia,Africa,Latin America Solidarity Committee (JAPAN AALA) August, 2007

(Preface)

From solidarity with Asian people to that with Asian, African, and Latin American peoples

* The Asian People's Conference (New Delhi, April 1955) decided to organize a solidarity committee in each Asian country to promote solidarity among people of Asian countries based on The Five Peace Principles.

According to this resolution, Japan Asia Solidarity Committee was established (Tokyo, October, 1955).

It was for the first time in the history of international solidarity by Japanese that our organization was founded for pursuing solidarity activity with Asian people.

* Japan Asia Solidarity Committee attended the First Conference of Afro-Asian Peoples (Cairo, December 1957). The Conference, hailing the ten principles (Dasa Sila) of Bandung, decided to promote solidarity among peoples of Asian and African countries. For this purpose the Conference decided to found a solidarity organization in each Asian and African country and to organize Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) to promote solidarity movement in Asia and Africa. Also the Conference decided to establish the Permanent Secretariat to promote activity of AAPSO.

* President of Japan, Asia, Africa,Latin-America Solidarity Committee.

Japan Asia Solidarity Committee was elected to a Secretariat Member of AAPSO. In this course, Japan Asia solidarity Committee was renamed to Japan Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee (Japan AALA 1958)

- Early 1980s, Japan AA, opposing infringement of national self-determination of Nicaraguan people by the U.S., developed its continuous activity in support and solidarity with Nicaraguan people in all its force, putting Nicaraguan people's struggle as that in the front-line for protecting national self-determination of world people. During this time, Japan AA was renamed again to Japan Asia Africa Latin America Solidarity Committee (Japan AALA, 1983).

- For 52 years until now Japan AALA has been working for solidarity with Algerian and Cuban peoples immediately after its establishment, and later for repatriating Okinawa back to Japanese sovereignty, and for solidarity with peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, including Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Chile, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and South African, demanding immediate abolition of Apartheid, Palestine, Nicaragua, and Venezuela recently.

Once it fought for its organizational defense under the circumstance of the danger that it might have been affected by the maneuver of a Philippine terror group.

All through such activity we have been continuing our work for strengthening and enlarging our committee, and periodically publishing and spreading our monthly organ paper "Asia Africa Latin America."

Now Japan AALA is advancing to a nation-wide organization which can spread its influence to all over Japan with 40 Prefectural branch committees (85 %) out of 47 Prefectures in Japan. It is also composed of 4000 individual members who pay his or her membership fee, and 19 organizations (with total membership of 2,790,000 altogether) from such fields as study,

culture, religion, medicine, the bar, labor, farmers, women and the youth.

When remembering that it was an organization of 200 well-known people living in and near Tokyo at its foundation 50 years ago, I cannot help feel moved with the great difference since then.

- Working with those Japanese who wish Japan to be non-nuclear and non-aligned and to have Japan participate in the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries, Japan AALA is now vigorously striving for constructing such organization that can develop active non-aligned diplomacy for advanced solidarity with governments attending the Non-aligned Summit Conference and related organizations.

What helped us to continue our activity for half a century until today after Japan AALA was founded?

The main factor lies in that Japan AALA has firmly and constantly maintained its standpoint of self-reliance and independence even at the time of the gravest confrontation of China and the Soviet Union in the solidarity movement.

Japan AALA openly opposed aggressions in Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan by the Soviet Union, and also struggled against Chinese thrust toward supporting its Great Cultural Revolution.

A split organization made by the then President, Secretary-General of Japan AALA, and their group motivated to support the Cultural Revolution disappeared after supporting the Pol Pot Regime in Cambodia. Japan AALA, receiving the invitation of China-Japan Friendship Association, dispatched a delegation to China and improved its relation with China in 2004. It happened only after 36 years.

Japan AALA has been working against aggression and intervention by the U.S. Imperialism, and for the progress of international common action based on the agreed conditions toward the urgent tasks for international solidarity.

Among our activity, I can specially mention an occasion at the First Solidarity Conference of Peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America (Havana, January 1966). The Conference, overcoming grave disunity between China and the Soviet Union, severely accused the U.S. aggression in Vietnam, and unanimously adopted a resolution for urgently strengthening activity in solidarity and support with Vietnamese people.

The resolution promoted support and solidarity activity toward Vietnamese People and encouraged struggling Vietnamese people.

There Japan AALA learned that we can attain support and sympathy from delegations of various countries at the conference even at the serious rift between China and the Soviet Union if we work firmly in the direction toward struggle against U.S. Imperialism and for the progress of international common action based on the agreed conditions.

Unforgettable talk and exchange of views with AAPSO leaders Rejoice at the collapse of the Soviet Union together!

I can still remember the cordial talk and exchange of views with President Dr. Ghaleb, Mr. Nouri, Secretary General, and Mr. Vidyasekera, Secretariat Member from AAPSO while Japan AALA invited this AAPSO delegation to Japan (Tokyo, April 1998).

The AAPSO delegation visited the Central Committee of the Japanese Communist Party for talk and exchange of views and they said that they had been much moved.

When the delegation made an inspection tour to one of U.S. Military bases in Japan they strongly tramped on the floor to express their anger on oppressiveness and arrogance by the U.S.

Concerning the collapse of the Soviet Union, I have another unforgettable memory of an incident at the 12th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries (Durban, August in 1998).

One day, I met and exchanged views with H. E. Mr. Panguene who was quite busy as one of Mozambican delegation members

and High Commissioner to South Africa.

H. E. kindly paid a visit to my hotel room. (I had had several occasions of cordial meeting and exchange of views with him by then. When I met him in Tokyo in 1960s and in Baghdad and Aden in early 70s he was "a freedom fighter," in Tokyo again in 1975 he was the First Mozambican Ambassador to Portugal, and in Mozambique in 1985 he was a General of Mozambican Army. Now he is Ambassador to the U.S.)

In the course of meeting in Durban when I told him that we had hailed at the collapse of the Soviet Union he was so astonished and told me that Mozambique had experienced very hard time at the collapse the Soviet Union.

After coming back to my country, I sent to Ambassador Panguene a book "Record of Interference and Treachery To the Japanese Communist Party From among the secret documents of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union" written by Mr. Tetsuzo Fuwa (Chairperson of Central Committee Presidium of the Japanese Communist Party) and others.

Participation in Non-Aligned Summit Conferences as observer members within the AAPSO delegation.

In order to establish closer contact with the Non-Aligned Movement by such Japanese who wish Japan to be non-nuclear and non-aligned and to have Japan participate in the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries, Japan AALA attended the 11th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries (Cartagena in Colombia, October 1995) for the first time as a member organization joining AAPSO delegation as observer. Since then it has been participating in the 12th, 13th, and 14th Summit Conferences of NAM.

I would like to introduce two impressive experiences while participating in the Summit Conferences.

(1) An addition was made to include clause demanding removal of "foreign military bases" in the Final Document of the 12th

Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries (Durban, August-September in 1998). This clause did not appear in its draft paper.

At that time there was observed in Japan a wide spread anger in protest against violence case on a girl in Okinawa caused by U.S. marines (autumn 1995). In solidarity with this struggle a meeting under the title "Withdraw U.S. Military Bases From Japan!" was held in the U.S. for the first time jointly by citizens of two countries of Japan and the U.S. as an international united action.

A video tape "Withdraw U.S. Bases From Japan!" (15 mins long) was produced in the course of this joint action, and 1000 copies of this video tape were distributed to all the Senators, the Congressmen in the U.S., and notable personalities who signed a petition to President Clinton demanding to withdraw U.S. bases from Japan.

We made English, French, and Spanish editions of the same video tape and handed the copies of it to all the delegations to the 12th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries.

This action must have affected the 12th Summit Conference. This case may indicate the importance of the approach by NGOs to the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries.

(2) Our pamphlet containing the lecture (Tokyo, April 2005) commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Bandung Conference and (the 50th anniversary of) the foundation of Japan AALA served to encourage the participants of the 14th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries.

The title of the lecture was "Asia, Africa, and Latin America In the Present-day world," and the lecture was made by Mr. Tetsuzo Fuwa, then Chairperson of the Central Committee of the Japanese Communist Party.

This lecture meeting was attended by 1,900 audience from all over Japan and guest diplomats of embassies in Japan from 11

Non-Aligned countries.

I guess that this was the only NGO meeting on the earth held in this size and contents in the year of the 50th anniversary of the Bandung Conference.

This lecture is said to have given deep impression to Japanese and foreign participants and encouraged them.

Our delegation which participated in the 14th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries (Havana in Cuba, September 2006) as a part of AAPSO delegation distributed English copies of this lecture to all the delegations to the 14th Summit Conference.

Participants who had read this pamphlet told us of their impressions saying, like "I have read this pamphlet straightly this morning and am moved by it" (a delegation member from Guinea Bissau).

On the cover of the pamphlet there were mentioned following two reasons for inviting Japanese Communist Party Central Committee Chairperson Mr. Tetsuzo Fuwa as the lecturer.

(1) The Japanese Communist Party is the only political party among Japanese political parties in pre-war time that objected against the aggressive war by Japanese Imperialism.

(2) The Japanese Communist Party is also the sole party that aims to establish a non-nuclear and non-aligned Japan and to have Japan participate in the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries.

(Finally)

This year falls the 51st year since I joined the office of Japan Asia Solidarity Committee.

Situations in Asia, Africa, and Latin America have completely changed since then.

Now I am deeply re-convinced that the unprecedented solidarity activity by Japan AALA hailing Five Principles for Peace and Dasa Sila principles of Bandung has been very significant.

Dr. Hassan Mohmed Meki*

Dear Dr. Morad Ghaleb
President of Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization
Mr. Nouri Abdul Razzak
Secretary-General

Dear Sirs,

In response to your invitation to contribute to the book that the Secretariat intends to publish on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of AAPSO, we are writing this message as our council is considered one of the earlier founders of AAPSO and interactive with its different political, economic, social and cultural activities.

Since the Council's establishment in 1966, it put the issues of the reunification of Yemen as well as the Arab Solidarity on its agenda because these are the main factors for achieving the Arab Unity.

In the early days, the Yemen Council for Peace and Solidarity called for resisting imperialism and arms race, and urged for consolidating the peaceful approach and nation's solidarity to face the imperialistic hegemony over the interest of the third world countries.

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* Advisor of the President,President of Yemeni Council for Peace and Solidarity.
** Ttanselated by: Miss Hagur Shoukr

The Yemen Council for Peace and Solidarity was one of the founders of AAPSO that inspired Bandung spirit and principles adopted in 1955 as a basis for international relations. Also, the Council supported the NAM as an extension of Bandung conference.

All these events had their clear effect on the activities and approaches of the Yemen Council for Peace and Solidarity. Therefore, its activities are wide and effective. The Council exerted its utmost efforts to reflect the resolutions of AAPSO conferences, and the plans of the World Peace Council. In addition to the implementation of the resolutions of the UN and its specialized agencies on development, peace, and disarmament. Thus the world could be secured and peaceful.

The Council exerted all possible effort to contribute to peace issues and support the just causes in international policy. So, the Council sought to reach solutions to many issues related to debt, regional conflicts, disarmament, development, human rights and to the strategic consequences for information and technological revolution. It always works for creating an advocative and supportive public opinion towards the crucial issues that form real impediments befor progress and advancement of the people of the third world countries.

As a result, the people of the third world countries have become a target for extortion and hegemony of the international monopoly forces and other self-interest institutions that dislike the principle of peaceful coexistence between nations.

Hence , the Yemen Council for Peace and Solidarity has inspired the revolutionary values from the objectives and principles of AAPSO. And this enabled the Council to play its role effectively in defending the revolution and Republic, and opposing the British military existence in the south which was threatening the newly born republican regime in the north.

The Council participated in the international conference for

peace-loving forces in Moscow, as well as the General Conference hosted by Budapest- the capital of Hungary in 1971. Also, participated in the Middle East Committee meeting held in Helsinki.

In addition, it participated in the Afro-Asian Solidarity sessions held in Cairo, Moscow and Baghdad as well as the Solidarity meetings held in Vietnam, Palestine, South Africa and with those nations who were under the Portuguese imperialism.

The Council (in Aden) had organized several events such as the presidium of the World Peace Council, the Presidium of AAPSO, and the Secretariat meetings of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organization.

In 1974, the Council participated in the World Peace Conference organized in Sofia, the scientific symposium on oil held in Baghdad, the peace conference in Stockholm, the international conference for a free-Indian Ocean Region of foreign bases which was held in India and the conference of international and national forces held in Budapest.

In the same year, the Council organized a scientific seminar in cooperation with the central planning institution on "Housing, Population and Economic Development and Planning" in accordance with the International Conference on "Population and Development" held in Bucharest.

In 1975, the Council participated in the 12th Meeting for AAPSO Council and in the International Conference for the support of the African Peoples.

In 1976, the Council participated in the Warsaw Conference for Peace.

Moreover, the Council participated in many other solidarity conferences, and peace conferences such as that concerned with the disarmament of internationally forbidden weapons. It hosted the seminar held in Sanaa, in April 1988, in solidarity with the Palestinian people.

Besides, the Council organized a number of meetings for Arab solidarity committees in Aden and Sanaa and held the World Conference on the Middle East in which 40 States and international organizations had participated under the sponsorship of the World Peace Council.

With the convening of the Reunification Conference of the two councils (the former north and south) on 16 May 1990, a presidential committee was formed. It was composed of 52 social and political figures. This contributed widely to the internal and external activities of the Council such as the issuing of solidarity statements to Arab national liberation movement particularly with the Palestinians and other Arab nations exposed to threatening and continuous imperialist war.

Also, the Council supported the liberation movements of South African peoples against the racism and apartheid regime of the white.

The Council hosted the solidarity meetings of Arab Committees held in Aden in 2005 followed by our participation on other solidarity meetings organized in different Arab countries.

As for the Egyptian-Yemeni relationship seminars, the Council will host the 14th session at the end of 2007. The session is organized alternately every year between Sanaa and Cairo.

The Council looks for the Afro-Arab solidarity to confront the challenges facing the nations in our region specially after the occupation of Iraq by Anglo-Zionist-American forces.

Iraq was considered a strong defender and strong supporter of the international, regional and national issues.

We hope AAPSO would double its efforts in this hard period in our history. We look for a brilliant future similar to its past marked by struggle and solidarity between Asian and African continents. This is what we predict from AAPSO as a pioneer organization established in Egypt, the model for national struggle for liberation.

Moreover, we hope AAPSO would play an active role in raising

awareness of the dangers of the sectarian tendencies which are being emanated by Western parties which stand against our nations unity, heritage and culture. AAPSO can achieve this through organizing a number of activities dedicated for supporting the Iraqi people and its courageous resistance forces till they will be able to drive away the occupying forces from its land and to resume its national and regional role in Arab and international arena.

Also, we hope AAPSO would be able to reconcile between the Palestinian brothers in order to unify their struggle against Zionist enemy, and to establish their independent state with its capital Jerusalem. In addition, we hope AAPSO could assist the Sudan as it is exposed to a Western and American fierce attack aiming at undermining its sovereignty through dividing it into small belligerent states which will weaken its international, regional and Arab role.

We look for AAPSO to organize a meeting for different Lebanese sectors in order to eradicate reasons for their disagreement and tensions and to reach quick solutions to the Lebanese crisis. No one but the Zionist entity benefits from this crisis, specially they are seeking to restore the lost dignity for their army after its crushing defeat by the Lebanese resistance and with the support of the heroic Lebanese people. Such victory regained the dignity and honor to the Arab world.

We depend on your organization which was inspite of being found amid the waves of international conflicts aiming at dividing the wealth of the world, it could unprecedentedly succeed to reach mass movements which could not be done by States.

Time is not enough to count the accomplishments of AAPSO in this hasty message. The history of AAPSO needs more than one conference and meeting to record its enternal works in the historical period of struggle linked with AAPSO.

We congratulate ourselves and Afro-Asian Peoples and

peace-loving peoples for that commemorating to the 50th Anniversary of AAPSO the pioneer organization that contributed to the whole world.

Best regards,

Mr. Albeir Farahat*

50 Years On The Road To The Future**

The old is dying and the new cannot be born; in this interregnum there arises a great diversity of morbid systems.
(Antonio Gramsci)

The Afro-Asian world differs since the past. In the Present history, it becomes easy victim to imperialist attack, war of interventions, foreign occupation and is subjected to an organized utilization of wealth.

While the US with Israel and their allies raise their voices against peoples' struggle for liberty, justice and democracy, they also practiced an unprecedented organized state terror before others.

These forces escalate their ideological war by deploying the culture of defeat under the guise of calling for moderation, realism and acceptance of others. In addition, they propagate the concepts of conflicts of civilization and the end of history. However, they give themselves the sole right by neglecting the main reasons for the growth of anti-human miscreant movements.

There are organized violations to the international law, human rights norms and UN Charter. Even there is an attempt to transform the UN to be similar to the US Foreign State.

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** Translated by: Miss Hamsa Abd El-Hamid.

More than 60 years since the violations practiced against the Arab Palestinian peoples' rights for land, state and self-determination have passed. Now in spite of the heroic struggles and gross sacrifices presented by this brotherly nation, the core issue of the Palestinians is neglected on the pretext of the alleged new danger. This requires the efforts of the tyrant and tyrannized to confront this danger.

In the past , Arabs used the card of oil in defending their rights and to overcome the war consequences. Now the Arab national wealth enhance the west imperialist economy especially what is related to weapon deals which reach trillion dollars as the sellers determine the kinds of weapons and its operation processes.

During the last quarter of the 20th Century, the October socialist revolution was a turning point in the lives of human beings. For example, it promoted the liberation movements in Asia and Africa. The low-income workers in the developed industrialized countries also attained rewards at the political and socio-economical levels.

With regards to the above, some questions must be raised:

Does what had happened and still taking place indicate to the fading of principles and values? Does this indicate to the vanity of the Afro-Asian Peoples' struggles that led to the establishment of AAPSO 50 years ago based on the Bandung principles. Or these principles and achievements are historical and could be used as a brilliant lightening that would guide our present and future times.

Can the birth of the being done without any painful labor? Can this be achieved without repeating the past or denying the past?. A critical review to the movement is necessary for exceeding the diseased symptoms that hurt us in the past and today.

The national Lebanese headed by the great martyr Kamal Jonblat- one of the founders of AAPSO- marched towards the solidarity movement with convenience that the birth of the new is necessary and possible according to these conditions.

While on the contrary, they don't have direct prescriptions to cure these symptoms, they presented their visions for openly and respectful discussion, dialogue and debate. They hope to reach a democratic compromise and common vision that guarantee achieving the new and noble tasks.

This is our message for our dearest organization on its 50th Anniversary

Dr. Samir Amin*

The Bandung Project: Expansion And Collapse**

With the convention of the Bandung Conference 1955, there were questions as regards the validity of the theory on which our thinking, in the wake of World War II, was founded. We used to think that the Socialist revolution, as a stage in the many-phased revolution, has become just around the corner in all of Asia and Africa. Furthermore, we used to think that the bourgeoisie was no longer apt for the leadership of national liberation, that the bourgeois- become compradorship everywhere- cannot be but an intermediary for colonialist domination reinvigorated under USA. However, surprisingly- excluding China, Vietnam and North Korea- regimes arising of independence in Asia have been stabilized, and guerrilla lost leverage. India, led by the Congress and Nehru; Egypt, by Gamal Abdel Nasser; and Indonesia, by Sukarno, took up new initiatives, whether on the domestic level, or in relation to imperialism- on one hand, or to USSR and China- on the other. It seemed that those unexpected initiatives pointed to the in-exhaustive historical role of the bourgeoisie.

The period following 1955 witnessed a preoccupation with a central question: is it possible to establish a national capitalist regime in Third world countries? Is it really possible to achieve this? What are its limits? Does it have to be groomed for the

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socialism it is going to surmount? Nonetheless, the ebb and flow of the third world national bourgeois project revolves around the general development of capitalism in the West, the military bipolar-based international politics, the role played by the USSR internationally, the Moaism-Sovietism differences, and the USSR-China ones.

I should like to put the development of China to question. Since 1960, China projected an image of liberation from Sovietism, accused by Maoism of pursuing a road leading back to capitalism. The political authorities in China reached significant conclusions, be it on the level of third world revolutionary strategies, deemed a "hot spot", or the level of the international stance between imperialist strategies on one hand and "socialist imperialism" on the other. I have to admit that I used to wholly embrace the analyses of the Chinese Socialist Party, almost between 1957 and 1980. However, since 1980, I started to criticize the emerging openness to capitalism there.

The Korean War (1950-53) and the First Vietnam War (1945-54) showed the limits of the Western imperialist military power. The Second Vietnam War (1965-75) and the Cambodian Civil War (1970-75) also demonstrated that national liberation course can be geared toward radicalism and even beat American armies. Similarly, the demise of the Portuguese colonialism in Africa (1974) substantiated the gains that the long military conflict can achieve. Nonetheless, the Algerian War (1954-62) ended with the rise of a radical national regime- Boumedienne's regime- not more progressive than Nasserism.

History did not stop, neither at the Cultural Revolution in China nor at the Vietnam War 1975. Nonetheless, it seemed that the ebbing and flowing of the socialist powers in China, Korea, Vietnam and Cambodia springs from domestic social disagreements, but never from foreign intervention. Necessarily, it is not favourable and it reinvigorates the conclusive impact of the

internal class conflict. However, the foreign element is not invisible. In addition to the flow of socialist powers in Eastern Asia, the expansive capitalist development kicked off in the region, I admit it was unexpected both to us and the rest of the world.

In Egypt, the years from 1955-1967 were the golden period of the Bandung project, even though the weaknesses were multiple. For starters, the Egypt-Syria Union (1958-61) failed, anti-communism upheld, conventional Islamic discourse tolerated, and confusion, influenced by the corruption, rampant. These were all beaten. I was thrilled at the sight of Egyptian youth, still aspiring for socialism, attacking the "new class". However, I was alarmed by the fact that the regime, instead of pursuing the road proposed by the youth, conceded to what happened after the death of Abdel Nasser (1970), the antagonism shown by Sadat toward Nasserist Left (May 1971), and openness and compradorship. Such politics waned a little until the war in 1973, then it re-emerged as it really is and flagrantly, both regionally and internationally, by joining the American camp, the Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and the Camp David Peace Accords (1977). That is why I did not consider openness "a counter revolution" as the less-critic of Nasserism Egyptian communists saw it. It served as an accelerator in the development of the Nasserist regime itself. 20 years later, flagrant capitalism is back in the former Soviet Union.

Nevertheless, regardless of my personal reservations insofar as Nasserism is concerned, the Arab peoples saw in the above a progressive national movement. Much criticism was leveled against me then! I thought that the Ba'ath regimes and the regime in Algeria had something in common with these: the bourgeois outlook, fundamental anti-democracy, the vulgar pragmatic philosophy, the overestimation of the Soviet support (mainly a military support, and this is the truth) and a degree of overriding cheap selfishness. These made them think that they can "use the American card" if necessary.

I had some hope in the poor areas of the Arab world (Sudan and Southern Yemen). As regards the Palestinian conflict, in 1964, the Palestinian people finally established their own organization, contrary to Arab regimes. This radical orientation coincided with peer popular movements at that stage; that is why we had many expectations. However, the skew of some Palestinian elements toward terrorism and their attitude toward hosting countries (Jordan and Lebanon) made it easy for the local reactionary and imperialist powers to launch their counter attack. Conditions were here to stay, until the Palestinian people took the initiative and the conflict moved into the occupied territories by the 1988 Intifada, thus new venues for conflict.

The years which I spent in Bamako (1960-63) timed with the first radical wave in Africa. The "No" in Guinea 1958, the independence of Ghana 1957, and the selection of Mali 1960 were major expressions of this, but not the only ones. The Lumumbist Movement won in Congo, and the Congo-Brazzaville was expected to move to a similar radicalism during 1960-63. In 1963, the popular revolution in Brazzaville put an end to the neo-colonial rule of Youlou.

Meanwhile, I was not as optimistic- childish, I think- as those who saw in "African socialist states" a new promising path. In my opinion, similarity to Nasserism was self-evidently imposing. One does not lose a battle not yet joined, and the battle had to be joined. The battle ended with defeat for the same reasons: the insufficient maturity of the youth, the illusions relished by the Soviet "friends", the imperialist interventions, and the appetite of the new bourgeoisie, even though nascent and indigenous. Nonetheless, the first wave in Africa was followed by a new radical sobriety. In 1964, Zanzibar revolted and overthrew the Sultan, in 1967 and Nyerere chose socialism as per the Charter of Arusha. However, not until 1983 that a new attempt was materialized in Burkina Faso, under Thomas Sankara, that learnt from previous

failures, focusing on most popular and democratic movements. In 1974, the military overthrew Emperor Hilasilasi in a country where revolutionary force seemed to wield power. However, it was divided into warring groups, as I have seen in Egypt. It was paralyzed on the hands of the dictator military that were in turn immersed in war with Eretria. This war assumed ambivalent stances, under the influence of imperialist powers and supporters on one hand, and the total support from the Soviet Union and Cuba to national regimes, on the other (particularly the Ogaden War 1978, and the changing stances of Siad Barre). Brave as they were, the Ethiopian rebels could not stop the anarchy that afflicted their country. The fall of Tsiranana in Madagascar (1972), and the attempts to pursue radical politics during the short government of Ratsimandrava (1973), then the support of the regime following the assumption of power by Ratsiraka (1975) are considered among the gains of this movement.

There are other developments, perhaps less, as regards expectations, but these, nonetheless, pinpoint the failure of neo-colonial regimes to wriggle free of their permanent crisis. The successive upheavals in Congo, the assumption of power by Kereko in Benin, the sliding of the Kawanda regime in Zambia, during the 1970s, into a state-guided regime (the State controls the economy) described as socialist, all attest to the continuous crisis of the neo-colonialist regimes. This crisis was rampant during the 1980s, with the wide-ranging call for democracy, sometimes assuming a true popular dimension (in Mali, where the military dictatorship of Moussa Traoré was put to an end), at others a sham, that can be easily manipulated by imperialists.

Due to the lengthy war of liberation in the Portuguese colonies, these movements were tinged with radicalism, at least their ideologies. However, I had some reservations, personally, regarding Amilcar Cabril's theory stating that such radicalism may lead the little bourgeoisie into "suicide as a class".

Notwithstanding, the fall of the Portuguese regime in 1974 precipitated independence; thus the chances of achieving that shrank significantly.

The nucleus for colonizing Africa was South Africa in particular. The Whites in Rhodesia thought they were going to tie their vehicle to it by unilaterally declaring independence 1965, supported by Britain, their homeland, with its usual hypocrisy. However, the struggle for liberation led eventually to the independence of Zimbabwe 1980, but at what price? The national front, by signing to the Lancaster House Agreement, which prevented any actual social or agricultural reform, sleepwalked into schizophrenia. It maintained its leftist discourse devotedly and undoubtedly, yet the imposed structural adjustment aggravated the social crisis.

Was there a similar solution before South Africa? I should like to focus, in my analysis of the special conditions of this country, on two points rarely observed. The first is that the white power project to make "their country" a modern industrial power- by the subjugation of black labour into semi-slavery- a project which started since the English colonization at the beginning of the 20th century and compounded during the last four decades of the apartheid, proved a failure. The South African industry does not possess a competitive capacity, and is not better than- in this respect (the main criteria for capitalist globalization) - any industrial country in Africa or the Middle East. All the way, Western supporters of South Africa refuse to admit that, out of racism. This failure is certainly credited to the resistance of the black working class, in Sharpeville (1960) and Soweto (1976), and then the public civil rebellion forced DeKlirk to accept negotiations, starting from 1990s. The failure, however, is also due to the grave dispersion, thanks to the white minority who consume, as Westerners, without having similar productive capacities.

The second point pertains to the fact that this country

represents a model in miniature of the global capitalist system- it combines a minority of consumers from the first world and a large army of workers concentrated in colonial mines, factories and agriculture, and inhabiting the blacks' cities. In addition, there is another army, no less in volume, of reserves- peasants in the Bantustans, in the informal sector surrounding the blacks' cities. So, under these circumstances, what would the political compromise agreed upon at the end of the apartheid system lead to? Foreign pressures lure the black majority with the advantages they were bequeathed with this "excellent industrial infrastructure". They are asked to lead the country toward more competitive capacity in line with the spirit of the age. In other words, the toiling majority are asked to offer more sacrifices to realize what capitalism failed to achieve, despite their hideous and manipulative means and world support, financially, economically and politically.

In Asia, the Bandung project realized less fragile gains, particularly in Eastern Asia. This shall be dealt with later.

No doubt, the dominating notion about India under the Conference Party is too glittery, highlighting its parliamentary democracy and highly competitive industry. Nonetheless, the Indian left dispels these unstudied overstatements. The Indian industrial bourgeoisie, allied with the big landlords in the north, never imagined that their project, even during the life of Nehru (died 1964), is in conflict with transnational capital, and it is paying the price- its technological and financial excellence is more superficial than real. In contrast, parliamentary democracy, the only reasonable method for directing hegemonic social alliances, different as they are from a province to the other in this vast country, does not rule out political marginalization of the popular classes. Perhaps, it is even dependent on that marginalization. Thus, this project, which first assumed a national dimension, loses today the momentum which started it.

The dictatorship of Shah of Iran, regained his wield after toppling Mossadegh 1953, pushed the country toward a State-dependent modernization project. The project achieved some positive outcomes despite its conservative social dimension. However, the anti-democratic spirit on which the project was founded, in addition to over-reliance on Western culture were its deadly flaws. The Islamic Revolution of 1978/79, which put an end to that Bandung rightist experiment, was incapable of adopting a real alternative to surmount Islamic buzzing.

If Iran were not a threat to hegemonic capitalism, would Afghanistan be that menace? The meager revolution that ousted the regime of Dawud 1978, to be replaced by a popular group targeting modernization, was capable- on its own-of realizing its project. The semi-communist ideology, expressed by the modernist intelligentsia, I think, was on its way toward gradual modification. However, the Soviet intervention 1979 ignited "clashes amongst those parties", thus gave the United States a never-dreamed-of chance- the Soviet troops were drowned in the region and Afghan modernist projects were nipped in the bud. The Western powers proved, by supporting Islamists, who having won in 1992, drowned the country in constant war, more vicious than predecessors, to be indifferent to people's interests in the region and hypocrite when it comes to their discourse on democracy.

Latin America did not take part in the Bandung project and never considered joining to the Non-Alignment countries group. This is credited to three reasons at least. First, Latin America is composed of countries that gained their independence since the 19th century. Second, the European culture had the upper hand there. Third, the US leverage exercised with the consent of ruling parties there.

Nonetheless, Latin America, after World War II, moved along a parallel path as the Asian and African countries under the banner of Bandung. Obviously, there is a main reason for these

conditions: its borderline capitalism, in terms of objectivity, puts it in a similar position as that of the Bandung countries before the global system. There are three experiments that can be listed among the array of radical experiments in the third world.

The first is the case of Cuba. No sooner had it gained its freedom 1959 than the US recognized a real danger in Castro's regime. This is illustrated in the failure attempt of Bay of Pigs 1961. The American danger, represented in the economic boycott of America and European allies, prompted Cuba to rely wholly on the Soviet Union. The 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, during which both Castro and Khrushchev maneuvered skillfully, led to sliding the Castro regime into emulating the Soviet model, thus impeding the development of the regime into a more democratic, less artificial direction.

The second is the attempt of the Allende's Leftist Regime to establish a democracy, in the traditional sense of the word, in Chile (1970-73). The Chilean democracy fell under American strikes, because the restrictions of this kind of democracy paralyzed it. So, did the bloody compradorship of dictator Pinochet, supported by the United States and Europe, achieve the success they call for so that it can become the model bragged about in the lobbies of the World Bank, even the source of inspiration for the neo-capitalists in Warsaw and Moscow? I definitely do not argue for that, not only because the social price of that "adjustment" is costly, but because- even within the framework of globalized capitalism, the Chilean position is that of the subject product, and this position is here to stay. At most, "under the table" work for the dominating capital and local agents is the most-aspired pursuit. Thus, popular brackets have no room for an acceptable future.

The third is the Sandinista victory over dictator Somoza 1979 in Nicaragua. The Sandinista learned the lesson from history. They tried not to exaggerate the role of the State, alias socialism. They

pursued a true democratic path, and different foreign relations. But this was not enough for the United States, which supported the Contra War against them, bolstered by coward Europe. Under these circumstances, the Sandinista withdrawal from government following the 1989 elections is considered a kind of honored exit, saving popular powers for other battles later.

The call by third world countries for "a new economic global system" 1975 was the culmination of the rise of the Bandung project. The Bandung regimes felt that sustaining their national bourgeois project would entail "adjusting" the North to the requirements of pursuing the globalized capitalist expansion, under acceptable conditions. They proposed rectifying the global system in line with this thinking. Nonetheless, Western powers rejected this project, entailing that the national bourgeois structure within the borderlines is pure fantasy. Actually, the borderlines adjusted unilaterally to the requirements of dominating globalized capital, in other words, turning into compradorship again.

It may seem an exaggeration to concentrate the history of this stage on the spread of the borderline national bourgeois project, but I insist on my viewpoint. The global system was organized, along the post-war period, around the main centre represented in the colossal political and social transformations that basically changed the shape of the societies of the three continents, thus the world community itself. The three continents constitute the majority of population. These were major substantive transformations, in contrast to the relatively quiet developments in the countries of the centre, in view of the magnitude of their impacts on the long run. Nevertheless, the transformations of capitalism in these dominating centres- I shall deal with them later- played a significant role in the development of the global system.

Is not the central significance of the transformations of the system evidently illustrated in the implicit recognition that the

countries of Eastern Asia are on their way to becoming "the centre" for the new world under construction? It seems a hyperbole to me, yet meaningful. Be it a miracle or anything else, the capitalist development of the region, which started in Korea and Taiwan, is based on an unusual geo-strategy (concessions never offered by the United States anywhere else, accompanied by reforms- most important of which the agricultural reform under the pressure of communist world competition), extending, within different frameworks, to South-Eastern Asia and vast China. Although, insofar as South-Eastern Asia is concerned, it is comprador capitalism dominated largely by multinational companies, it is different insofar as Korea and China are concerned. So, does it have to do with forms of national capitalism proven realizable historically, in response to the above question? Will these forms be able to fill the gap between the centre and the borderlines gradually, i.e. to establish new capital centres in the region? Or, with polarization assuming new shapes, despite realized successes, these regions will turn into the real borderlines of tomorrow's globalized capitalism, while the others are simply marginalized?

The recent developments in the region-the financial crisis in South-Eastern Asia and Korea- I think, indicate that a long term war has started. The USA capitalized on the Korean financial crisis, actually secondary (France and Britain went through tougher crises during the post-war period), to impose on Korea the dismantlement of its giant cartel and to "open" them in the face of foreign capital. They made use of their most deceptive pretexts for this target. Can you imagine the International Monetary Fund calling for the resolution of the US financial crisis (foreign financial deficit per capita exceeds peer in Korea, lasting for more than 20 years!) by means of selling Boeing to its European vier Airbus (Boeing is a cartel similar to Korean companies)? The target of this war is obvious then: will Korea be able to be on top of the

position of the main capital centre, or will it turn into a subject in the framework of the expected global polarization? If it is unquestionably believed that the result for most of the new third world countries (the countries of South-Eastern Asia and Latin America) will be subordination and compradorship, the case is different, though, I think, for Korea, and particularly China, perhaps even India, the war has not started yet. There may be a counter attack in confrontation of the US, starting at first with controlling speculations of capitals. The annals of history remain wide open.

Anyway, these third world transformations and its –imbalanced-industrialization is not the result of the logic of unilateral expansion of dominating capital, but the result of the struggle of societies concerned against this logic, in different degrees. Thus, Bandung assumes various forms, in terms of social and political country specific conditions and the interaction of regional and international powers. Four groups of transformations that spread gradually during the post-World War period are found:

The First Group: of downright capitalist development, coupled with an ideology designated "liberal", though the State often interferes. It seeks modernization and is open to the global system (attempting to control this openness), but anti-democratic in all cases. This group is represented by Korea, Taiwan, Mexico, Brazil and Shah Iran.

The Second Group: popular experiments and largely dependent on the State. It does not recognize democracy at all and it is ambivalent as regards integration into globalization. Usually, it christens itself "socialist" and is supported by the Soviet Union at most times. Some of these experiments tried far industrialization, while others did not achieve much in this respect. This is credited to the different historical circumstances of each.

The Third Group: the experiments that lived "Marxism": China,

North Korea and Cuba. These have their history. They were first produced of radical revolutions like the Russian Revolution, guided by the Third Estate principles. They are now geared, frankly in relation to China, towards a capitalism that allegedly controls relations with the dominating global system.

The Fourth Group: the experiments that never went beyond the usual neo-colonial context. Their growth (Ivory Coast and Kenya...etc), or constant stagnation (the countries of the coast and others) is subsumed under the umbrella of resigned and absolute subjugation to foreign influences.

These major transformations result in circumstances totally different than the 1945 ones. As a key for analysis, we should use the criteria adopted by globalized capitalism- world "competitive", or at least capable of becoming so with little effort, local production sectors. Thus, we are face o face with "a third" world and another "fourth" that are worlds apart.

The new third world is comprised of the sum of countries that succeeded in "modernizing" themselves sufficiently as in accordance with international competition standards. Generally, it includes all major countries in Latin America and Eastern Asia (China, the two Koreas and Taiwan), the countries of Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union- in my opinion; these are the real borderlines of tomorrow. The fourth world encompasses the rest of the world countries, Africa in general, the Arab and Islamic world. Of course, obvious and major differences exist amongst the last group. Some of them have taken strides on the road of industrialization, but failed as competitors in this respect (e.g. Egypt and South Africa). Others did not embark on the industrial revolution stage (Sub-Saharan Africa, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Indonesia). Among this group, there are financially "rich" countries, consider the uninhabited oil countries, and variously "poor" countries (from Ivory Coast to Somalia). The criteria I use here is not income per capita, but the ability to integrate the global

system of production. There are, of course, countries where these criteria somehow overlap, consider India.

The peoples of both third and fourth worlds- the majority are from popular classes- face the same challenge, but different struggling conditions. The challenge is that borderline capitalism does not offer any acceptable choice, neither socially or politically, to the popular majority. Nonetheless, the social formations of third world borderline countries include a huge army of workers, in addition to a major army of reserve that cannot be contained. Therefore, the substantive opportunity for establishing a strong popular social coalition, which can be materialized through struggle in the real arena so as to manage the production system and democratize the politics and society, is ripe. Of course, there are real impediments, though different in nature, in the face of that materialization. The ideological impediment- the Soviet heritage and the historical restrictions of Maoism- is not the least dangerous. The countries of Eastern Europe are among this group, so, can their peoples wriggle free of capitalist illusions, and avoid falling into Chauvinism? China is also amongst this group, can it reinvigorate Maoism, in addition to a democratic component, in the true sense of the word: independent organization of popular brackets to offset the concessions to capitalism? On the other hand, the "fourth world" social formations- "the rich" or "poor", non- industrial or less industrial (hence, its industry is being dismantled under the mainstream compradorial politics) – are, in fact, juxtaposed between "people" (non-defined and irrelevant to a dependable production system) and "authorities". In these cases, the deterioration of conflicts into unknown results becomes one of the real inputs- surely catastrophic- of circumstances. In the Arab and Islamic world, the alliance between oil money and the ancient conventional methodological discourse, despite alleged "fundamentalism", becomes a major guarantee of successful imperialist plans to impose compradorship on the region. In

Sub-Saharan Africa, sometimes the unknown results take other forms like ethnicism, which may lead to the decomposition of some countries.

Does not the fall of the Bandung project entitle us to the opinion we cherished during the period 1945-55, that national bourgeoisie exhausted its historical role? And that the national capitalist development in the borderline project has become a fantasy, no longer effective? Was not the accusation of "being leftist", leveled against those who focused on the crisis of the Bandung project and bourgeois nature futile? Same extends to the false conception of "the non-capitalist route"? When I re-read my writings during that period, I conclude that, in all, these were right analyses; I may even say they were, in some parts, prophesies, as void of modesty as this may sound! Here are some examples:

* The timely pre-warning-1960- that the "natural" end of Nasserism may assume the same form as during "openness".

* Warning against the potential neo-compradorial general solution in the Middle East which may integrate Israel within the regional solution.

* The analysis I submitted in 1965 on "the miracle" in the Ivory Coast, contrary to the expectations of the World Bank, that were proven false by reality.

* The attitude I defended in 1975: the best solution in Angola was to work for the establishment of a coalition government between the different liberation movements. I am not certain whether the efforts exerted for the realization of that coalition would have succeeded. I am also not certain that sufficient efforts have been exerted in that direction. Today, after 17 years of futile war perhaps the solution would impose itself, however almost absurd!

* The concerns I expressed since 1972-74 in relation to Zimbabwe and South Africa, that a compromise is possible in that region- it is called the Lancaster House Agreement 1980, and "the

federal solution" in South Africa following apartheid. (See: My Diaries. Dar Al-Saqi. Beirut, 2006.)

Mr. Helmi Sha'rawi*

On the 50th Anniversary Of The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) Rise... Encumbrances... And Future Prospects**

It was a different world, that of 1958, when the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) was established in Cairo. The "Bandung spirit" was generously conferring its special flavour on the movements of popular governments and organizations, even shaping the aspirations of many peoples who sought out freedom after World War II. Thus, recollecting the mechanisms of that period, and looking forward to an innovative role of Afro-Asian peoples' organizations, is worth reflecting. The following lines represent a relevant attempt:

1. Circumstances surrounding the launch of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement.
2. Popular Bandung: the rise and fall.
3. The situation: vistas on the three continents.
4. A vision for saving the Peoples' Solidarity Movement.

First: Recollections: The Launch of the Solidarity Movement

We were groups of youth at Cairo University in the last week of December 1957, when we found the University Guard, staff and other forces, last-minute preparing the Cairo University Hall, famous for holding conferences, for "a big international conference" they said. The Conference of the Afro-Asian Peoples'

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** Tranlated by: Dr. Iman Shakeeb.

Solidarity was held on the 26th of December 1957- January 1958. Some of the rooms and restaurants of the Students' Hostel were prepared for serving the guests of the conference. Some of university youth, following the Tripartite Aggression on Egypt 1956, had geared their minds decisively towards the Arab unity movement, which they felt to be a protective and shrouding shield of the national regime in Egypt, the vanguard of Arab liberation, in their opinion. Other groups were advocating a mainstream leftist thinking that sees the Arab movement as necessarily part of a world liberation movement launched after WWII, demanding rights of the people to self-determination against colonization. Furthermore, it was thought that the Socialist Camp, standing fast with Egypt and other countries, was a support to the liberation movement that had acquired a world dimension; take the international socialist camp itself. Also, such alliance was thought to be the main safeguard of independence and comprehensive liberation.

At that time, I had joined a small society called "the African League" at Zamalek district. There, I discovered another whole world of young Somalis, Sudanese, Eritrean, Nigerians, Senegalese, Chadian and Ugandans, who came to learn in Egypt, circling around Egyptian elite of professors, journalists and diplomats, most important of whom was the man rarely-mentioned nowadays, the late Muhammad Abdel-Aziz Isaac.

I remember that the first seminar then was on a story in Newsweek about "Black Nationalism", i.e. Pan-Africanism, between the blacks in America and the African continent. The debate revolved then on how Egypt could belong to "the black nationalism", in that American sense, and that there must be a way to position Egypt in Pan-Africanism as central as it is in Pan-Arabism.

Then, I met Mr. Muhammad Fayeq, said to be assigned by Nasser to help affiliate to Pan-Africanism, particularly after

Nasser's return from the Bandung Conference- April 1955. Isaac was explaining to us that the first target- as African and Arab- was real independence and liberty. He added that this youth, learning in Egypt, will substantially contribute in this direction, then everybody can decide on the destiny of "unity"... that Egypt itself has to be liberated intellectually and politically so that it can contribute to that role. He, himself, was the one who translated Freedom of Thought, which was confiscated by Al-Azhar before the July Revolution. So, his vision encompassed both society and State alike. I knew, from Mr. Fayeq, through interviews with him that were published later, that Nasser returned from Bandung and discovered Asia. The atmosphere in the African League was to prepare for a conference encompassing the peoples of Asia and Africa alike, in Cairo, particularly after the return of many Egyptian youth and other Africans from the World Youth Forum in Moscow, where the role of Asian and African youth was specifically evident. Most of the African youth were among those who reached Cairo first.

Second: Popular Bandung: the Rise and Fall

For starters, there was Bandung and leaders: Nehru, Sukarno, Nasser and Chou en-Lai. The five principles of political and economic independence were articulated there in April 1955. Nasser's delegation, including 52 members, was the biggest delegation, even bigger than the host country Indonesia! This entails that there was a significant attention paid not only to Africa here, but also to Asia there. It seems that the leaders of this continent, Nehru and Chou en-Lai had discovered in turn Nasser... we all know how the case developed with them. However, let us move back to the African Arab youth in Cairo. We were reflecting on current affairs: Egypt defended itself using force, the people's right to own their wealth asserted by the nationalization of the Suez Canal, the revolution on the French possible in Algeria, already flaming in Chinese India and even in

Kikuyu mounts in Kenya, and the Gandhi's "Non-Violence" revolution erupted at the heart of the national counter-violence movement against colonial violence. That became the fate of youth reflections in Zamalek... or in the yard of Cairo University as it prepared for a comprehensive conference of African and Asian peoples.

We used to read as youth... and there were a number of professors who wrote for political education, and development awareness not just for singing the praises of the Media or cultural forums. We read just before the Cairo Conference the book of Muhammad Anis, the national historian who dated for the idea of the Conference, paved the ground for the prior movement in Asian gatherings in particular, the idea of Asia for the Asians and Africa for the Africans and how they combined together in Bandung, in accordance with the five precepts of peaceful co-existence or "The Pancha Shila", elaborated by senior Asian leaders as principles of national sovereignty and respect of coexistence between Nehru's liberalism and Chou en-Lai's Marxism. Months before, we had read for Malik bin Nabi, the Algerian thinker, who published from Cairo, in Civilization Problems series, a book on "the idea of Afro-Asian", in light of the Bandung project. He attempted, in turn, to make of the Afro-Asian meeting a national and cultural renaissance for a new world in the face of the then current world of polarization.

As university students, we felt that the Egyptian thinking itself is taking major leaps in no time, from its narrow context within Egypt and Mission, by Hussein Mu'nis to new vistas. Even, the treatment of the Revolution's philosophy of "the three circles" seemed naïve before these new aspirations of worldwide national liberation. Furthermore, such aspiration was not the result of a national charisma, but a popular state opening to these new vistas, national and socialist. This state recognized a democratic character such as Nehru, who dispatched a large delegation, from

the Conference Party, to Egypt to discuss with Nasser the necessary materialization of Bandung into a popular movement, by establishing an organization that includes a group of civil and political organizations to stand for the solidarity of African and Asian people, to be headquartered in Cairo, with its middle position between both continents, in particular. Thus, the gathering witnessed at the lobbies of Cairo Universities attended by hundreds of Arab and Asian popular organizations and representatives of African liberation movements.

Reflecting on and relating the development of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement to the national liberation force, triggered by the 1950s and 1960s' youth, who revived it for long until it waned relatively as a result of the encroachment of imperialist globalization to suppress the peoples' movement, one can check how the AAPSO held most of its conferences subsequently- after Cairo on Africa's land- in Conakry 1961 after Guinea revolted against the French, then in Arusha, Tanzania 1963 with Tanzania's decision to adopt African liberation movements and the emergence of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and later in Winneba, Ghana 1965, as Nkrumah's battle against imperialism and monopolies flamed, and in Algeria 1984 with the rise of Boumediennism. It was not convened in Asia until 1988, now that tempestuous winds from the tigers had blown; in addition to the fragmentation even deterioration amongst the Socialist Camp. It was paralyzed since that time. Had it not been for the late Mourad Ghalib's vivacity, as much as he could master, in NAM conferences amidst discouraging Egyptian environment, we would not have heard of such organization except as many times as the youth of the old Guard would recollect, or for the activities of their standing secretariat in Cairo, in the circles of the forgotten World Peace Council, or in national committees, most important of which in India, so far, where most of the rest compete for barely gratifying morsels of these in their countries.

The memory of the first years of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement is still impinging.

We- the 1950s and 1960s youth- thought that the Afro-Asian rallying will be disbanded into fiercer regional and specific gatherings when it comes to the democratic and national liberation battle, particularly in Africa and the Arab world. However, seeing the results, I can say that the popular masses, who maintained the spirit of the Movement until its 7th Conference 1988, were mostly Asian, thanks to organizations there of a stronger democratic bent than the countries of national slogans in the Arab world and Africa. Preparing for the establishment of the Organization of African Unity 1963, regimes provided that all African people conferences must be halted, following their important meeting in Cairo 1961, when they declared war on neo-colonialism, including its mechanisms represented in Israel and affiliate governments. Therefore, it was dealt a blow with the first agreement to establish the Organization in Addis Ababa 1963! Similarly, it can be said that no major or minor Arab capital was host to a significant Afro-Asian or continental conference of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement. That is why the nationalists among us- not the democrats- celebrate the memories of 1964/1965 in Cairo. We, the offspring of the non-aligned, independent national liberation movement, cannot argue with pride the democrats if it were not for the incidents of 1964/65, with its major implications represented in conferences such as the Arab-African Summit, NAM, the Group of 77 and the Liberation Committee, in Dar al-Salam...etc.

What is the source of pride for the youth of that 60s period?

The youth of that period remember that Cairo invigorated a high struggling spirit in the national liberation movement, making it a head-quarter of more than 22 African liberation movements all over the Continent. It was open unto the world from Zamalek district, the directed broadcasts, and the foreign diplomatic corps

there made it a major source of concern, in addition to the multiple liberation movements that resulted in the imprisonment of Mandela, the assassinations of Dr. Moumie (Cameron), Mahmoud Harbi (Somalia), John Kale (Uganda), Mondlane (Mozambique) and even Cabral (Guinea Bissau).

Amidst these circumstances, the First Conference of the Organization of African Unity was held in Cairo 1964 (after being established in Addis 1963). The African regimes-reluctantly-recognized all these liberation movements, pledging financial and military support-as much as possible- from Dar al-Salam, Tanzania. This attested to the capacities of the countries of national liberation in pursuing the liberation process until the end of the 80s (South Africa). Within 2 years of that decade, the Arab Summit was held for the first time, in support of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which gave rise to Armed Struggle at the beginning of 1965. However, it was besieged with the attitudes of these Arab regimes that were not able to keep up with the OAU's collective commitment to armed struggle. In Cairo, the Non-Aligned Movement Summit was held, on trade and development, and gave rise to the Group of 77, whose designation as (UNCTAD) is a symbol of resisting greedy globalization even within the framework of the United Nations. Meanwhile, Cairo bolstered the convention of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Conference, at a wide mass level, Ghana 1965, in order to stop attempts to drive a wedge between both capitals, in an integral competition anyway, for the benefit of African liberation movements. It aimed also to induce Ghana out of its isolation to the African league movement. Nkrumah later issued his famous book, Neo-colonialism: the Last Stage of Imperialism, almost thought to be the last straw that broke the camel's back with the West, that assassinated him early 1966. In the summer of 1965, preparations were underway for the meeting of "the Bandung countries" again in Algeria while bin Bella was in a summit to push

Algeria on the way towards the idea of third world? However, internal rivalries prompted Boumedienne and Bu Taflika to topple him before the conference, to the disappointment of everyone and the hope to maintain the role of Algeria. Remarkably, during these preparations, Chou en-Lai visited Cairo on his way to troubled Algeria then, and so spent 10 days as Nasser's guest. Fayeq recounts how the Egyptian leader's relationship with him was cemented, in what seemed to be in balance with the Khrushchev's visit, or winning over China in Afro-Asian peoples movement and putting an end to the Chinese-Indian conflict. Cairo was also keen on maintaining balance between these two countries. History recorded how the Egyptian leadership backed India by supporting restoration of the Portuguese colony "Goa", a pocket in India, that is unworthy of its position in the Asian or world arenas. Egypt prevented the passage, through the Suez Canal, of Portuguese military forces, then, to India.

The conclusion, here, is that the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement had far-reaching impacts on the liberation movements even under government auspices. This provides it with a competitive edge over the African Unity Movement which often beleaguered these movements. Thus, the attendance of representatives of the liberation movements and the opposition sometimes, within the framework of Afro-Asian Solidarity, from Cairo until they all gained independence, was more significant than inter- governmental relation alone in other organizations. Within the framework of Afro-Asian solidarity, cultural and popular movements prospered, in addition to opening unto socialist countries, though the Soviet-Chinese conflict was heavy, realized not only on the African level- insofar as youth, women and writers are concerned. Unfortunately, it did not include workers' or farmers' movements, due to circumstances that might take long to explain insofar as the attendance of most liberation and socialist "countries" in the heart of this solidarity movement?

Third: the Situation: Vistas on the Three Continents

A vital question must be asked at this point: why the AASM did not reach Latin America, save for a first and last conference in January 1966? The question is raised here, not to address a basically documented historical issue, but the question remains to be addressed now more than ever before.

Personally, I am motivated by a special factor related to my high regard of the role of Mehdi Ben Barka who paid his life as price for attempting in that direction. Nobody continued his role afterwards. Reading the documents of the AASM, I was surprised to find contradictory or interesting attitudes worth reflecting upon. Talk of that idea began in 1961, then measures for actual implementation in the conference of solidarity in Arusha, Tanzania 1963. Castro himself attended in support of the idea and Mehdi Ben Barka put his weight 1964, when the declaration of the project was reaffirmed in Winneba, Ghana 1965. Later, Barka persistently moved between the Socialist bloc, China and Cairo, pressuring in order to stress the convention of the conference in Havana in January 1966. Interestingly, the committee assigned to follow up with Barka returned saying that Cuba itself was no longer enthusiastic as regards the integration of the whole Latin America group into the AASO, due to different approaches!

Even though it was concluded that the conference would be held and that another organization, Organization of Solidarity of the People of Asia, Africa & Latin America (OSPAAAL), of a nature compliant to the circumstances of violent Cuban relations in Latin America, there must be an explanation for the assassination of Ben Barka, before the convention of the conference in Havana, October 1965. Different interpretations would reveal various dimensions in the international stance. The American and European circles were afraid lest the spirit of Bandung be transferred to Latin America, on the hand of leaderships as vivacious as Barka if cooperated with Castro.

Therefore, the AASM had to be disrupted by the assassination of Ben Barka. There are various references to the impact of the Soviet politics in Latin America, being not ready then to rouse tensions with the US again, in addition to other references to the Soviet-Chinese conflict and effect, renewing the apprehension of each party lest the other dominate the new order. There were also fears everywhere of the spread of Guevaraism in Africa and Asia, already influential in Latin America and reaching Congo and the African South. Meanwhile, the Soviets sought to integrate representatives of Eastern Europe, semi-government representatives of the organization of formal designations. The less popular World Peace Council (WPC) also joined in turn, mindless of forming a bloc of countries in support of wriggling free of growing American influence.

The weaknesses in the structure of the organization persisted: the Chinese-Soviet conflict on one hand, the Indian-Chinese one on the other, the Arab-Zionist conflict clash with the results of the 1967 war and the third world Algerian diplomacy movement toward government... in addition to all the other blows dealt to the structure of the peoples movement in Africa and Asia. Here, the recollections of the 50s and 60s youth come to a halt, leaving the movement in deterioration. This was also helped by the policies of Sadat and allies since the 70s; he was the first president of the Organization 1958. The stance of the Indian Congress Party was also weakened. China began its transformations and so did the Soviet freeze that stifled the Union. The African liberation movements were transformed into governments incapable of economic, not to mention political, struggle.

A Vision for Saving the Peoples' Solidarity Movement

A new world wind is blowing now, calling upon fresh youth to ask different questions, present various answers and restructure this Organization. Let us give them a hand in the 50th anniversary of establishment with these queries so they can provide answers:

- The convention of the general conference of the Organization: the main constitution of the Organization provides that the general conference be held every two years. The Organization, according to this rule, has spent almost two decades without convening its general conference: it stopped since the 7th conference in Delhi 1988. It could not be understood why it stopped, particularly that the general secretariat is present and attempts self-reactivation, in one way or another, and so is the conflict in the different sham solidarity committees, on one occasion or another. The African and Asian elements are rallying circumstantially, some have been witnessed in Durban (The World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance) and later, then in Vietnam lately. Disruptors of the general conference are those who fear change imposed by the era, or fear necessary expansion in the call, thus incur the wrath of this regime or others.

- Proposal to amend the constitution to facilitate the convention of the general conference: the constitution, in introduction and first Articles, prescribes something similar to mass mobilization for solidarity from "all progressive and democratic forces". However, when it comes to membership, even though stipulated that "mass organizations and political parties shall be included", it confined these in "a single organization" (Art. 3), i.e. one solidarity committee. In many cases, especially Arab ones, it is known how the semi-governmental committees have become inept regarding the establishment of a popular organization in an Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement. The old constitution (Art. 9) also confined the selection of a president of the Organization to the head-quarter country through the nomination by this country's committee. Thus, the presidency of such popular organization is more a nomination by the existing government than by the popular movement. Had it not been for the balanced diplomatic character of the late Mourad Ghalib, this Organization would have gone with the wind. Furthermore, if it had not been for the political parties

that maintained their strong solidarity spirit in Asia, the Organization could have been dead due to the unfathomable passive attitude of the African National Congress in South Africa or the persistent reluctance of organizations in Tanzania and Mali to participate.

An effective and real dialogue must be negotiated with popular and party circles in the People's Republic of China to re-attend the solidarity movement, insofar as the people of the South are concerned. Nobody has the right to keep it, at that distance, away from the Movement, now that it is expanding as a socio-economic order in the world. This has to remain on a popular dimension, otherwise it would turn into a neo-imperialism or a socialist imperialism as it used to propagate about the Soviets.

Reconsideration of declaring a unified organization for Asia, Africa and Latin America: the governing criterion should be the necessary rally of the counties and peoples of the South in the face of the rough globalization tide represented in the Davos group and the G8 summits...etc. Peoples of the South, however, also gather in Third World Forums, the World Social Forum and the World Energy Alternatives...etc, In addition to regional and continental popular forums or specific organizations (Women, jurists...etc). Thus, forms a base for a strong popular organization: the APSO or OSPAAAL, outside the current Organization rule in what is called solidarity committees, now semi-governmental.

In a general conference, of a truly popular character, of these organizations with the legacy of the AAPSO, a popular president can be elected, and so an anti-colonialist, anti-settlement, anti-imperialist globalization struggling secretariat that addresses existing actual challenges facing our people as regards new issues: agriculture and farmers, monopoly of industry, environment and health issues. In the end, a new concept of development integrated with economic and financial power available to many of the people of the South.

Integrating the power of Latin America into a world solidarity movement is a duty now that the development of AAPSO is being considered. Many are the centres of vision in Latin America, whether the OSPAAAL secretariat in Cuba liked it or not! Havana should remember that abundant water had crossed under the bridges of Puerto Alegre at the advent of the 21st century, and now across Caracas. No popular bureaucracy would dare, if I may put it that way, ignore that by adhering to its history or clinging to modest aspirations.

Mr. Achim Reichardt*

Brief Account Of My Experiences With AAPSO On The Occasion Of Its 50th Anniversary

As citizen of Europe I consider the role and the work of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement within the united front of AAPSO as a very important aspect in the struggle of peoples for freedom as well as economic and social progress. Fifty years of Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement show how important it has been up to now and will be in future. The Afro-Asian states and their people developed their unity against the oppression of highly industrialized capitalist powers all over the world and they have to continue this way in order to reach further economic and social progress.

When I passed my exams in international law and diplomacy in 1956, I did not expect to be ever directly involved in the work of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement. Nevertheless, as a student and later as a young diplomat I followed with great admiration the policy of the leaders of Egypt, India, Indonesia, and Yugoslavia, who were trying to unite the young states of the so-called Third World. It was a great victory of them to formulate the principles of Bandung and to form the Solidarity Movement as a basis for a broad movement of peoples to unite for freedom and for de-colonization and to build up independent states.

* Former Secretary General of the Solidarity Committee of the German Democratic Republic

Early in 1958, I came to Cairo for the first time. There – as a young diplomat of the German Democratic Republic – I met the distinguished Youssef el-Sebai in his capacity as the Secretary General of the just founded Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization. And in 1978 I had to learn about the fact that he was dastardly murdered during a solidarity meeting of AAPSO in Cyprus. Members of the delegation of the Solidarity Committee of the GDR who where participating the meeting as well provided me with more details when I was just appointed as Ambassador of the GDR to Lebanon. It was this event, which had great influence on my decision to work for the solidarity movement in the German Democratic Republic later on.

From 1982 onwards I took over responsibilities in the broad solidarity movement of the GDR that was formed by all mass-organizations and citizens. During my diplomatic work in different Afro-Asian countries I had realized that peoples of these great regions still needed essential material and educational assistance. Therefore, in my position as the Secretary General of the Solidarity Committee I considered the cooperation with AAPSO as one of my top duties and I succeeded in strengthening the already existant good relations between AAPSO and the Solidarity Committee and we put them to a higher level. With great pleasure I always remember the common and intensive activities to mobilize political and social forces in the world to assist ANC of South Africa and SWAPO of Namibia to reach freedom and independence. Of course, such assistance was waged also for other fighting peoples e. g. in Angola and Mozambique in Africa or in Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in Asia – just to mention a few. I still remember the time, when we were calling to international political and social forces at many international conferences to free Nelson Mandela and other political leaders in different countries. I admired such high personalities like Oliver Tambo and Alfred Nzo from ANC or Sam Nujoma from SWAPO and last but

not least the President of AAPSO Dr. Morad Ghaleb with whom brotherly relations could be developed. And it was at the inauguration of the new independent state of Namibia in 1990 when I could shake hands with Nelson Mandela who was just freed from prison very short time before. There is no need to say which role he played during the following years.

A lot of positive words can be said about the extensive activities of AAPSO during all these years. Of course, growing difficulties and differences between members of the organisation could be mentioned as well. In fact they were discussed and practically settled. In the course of all these very serious negotiations, Nouri Abdel Razzak as Secretary General of AAPSO played with his great experience a uniting role as mediator. This underlines the democratic inspirations of this worldwide peoples' organization.

To put it in a nutshell, I'd like to say: Afro-Asian world with its peoples should unite more around AAPSO, because without united strengths the great objectives of the non-aligned movement can not be fulfilled. Therefore I wish Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation all the best and great success for all its activities in future.

Mrs. Emily Nafaa*

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization: Past And Prospects On Its 50th Anniversary**

AAPSO Past:

The 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization comes at a time of major developments and challenges facing the peoples of Africa and Asia as a result of the neo-liberalism ferocious aggressive policies and the activities carried out by its military, financial and trade arms NATO, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization.

The anniversary comes at a time of the catastrophic policy pursued by the US administration in a bid to give legitimacy to its imperialist project in the Middle East which aims to divide its countries into small protectorates and control its tremendous natural resources, primarily oil, while the Israeli rulers are persisting in their refusal to abide by the international resolutions on finding a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue. This affirms Israel's intentions- with the political, economic and military US support – to impose its own terms for the liquidation of the Palestinian cause, capitalizing on the imbalance of forces, the Palestinian conflict, Arab disarray and the weakness of the resistance and confrontation forces.

Added to this are the deteriorating conditions in Africa and in

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** Transleted by: Mrs. Rosette Françis

some Asian countries, as well as the attempts to dominate their natural resources. AAPSO played an important and outstanding role at the national, regional and international levels manifest in different activities which are an expression of the aspirations of the peoples of Africa and Asia. AAPSO rallied support and sympathy by the progressive forces and organizations worldwide.

No doubt, AAPSO Secretariat played a major role in the continuation of the struggle and in rallying forces despite all the political and financial conditions and constraints. It also succeeded in carrying out its work despite the ferocious crimes committed by the forces of aggression, oppression and exploitation. It continued to polarize more women, youth and civil society organizations concerned with confronting the forces of evil and aggression. Since its establishment AAPSO has been guided by the principles and objectives of the Bandung Conference. In this respect, it made statements, held meetings and supported the peoples' struggles by all means.

Bandung Conference in 1955:

The Bandung Conference of Asian and African countries was held in Indonesia from 18-24 April 1955 and was attended by 29 states (Afghanistan, Burma, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Egypt, Ivory Coast, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Yemen, Cambodia, People's Republic in China, Laos, Liberia, Lebanon, Libya, Nepal, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Sudan, Thailand, Turkey, Philippines, South Vietnam, Ceylon, Abyssinia and Japan). The Conference was also attended by unofficial representatives of Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria and South Africa.

The call for the Bandung Conference for Asian and African countries came during a meeting of the heads of Burma, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Ceylon held in Bogora in Indonesia in December 1954. The participants in Bogora issued a statement calling for:

1- Working for the establishment and strengthening of ties of friendship and good neighborhood among the states of Asia and

Africa.

2- Examining the social, economic and cultural issues and relations among these countries.

3- Studying the problems facing the peoples of Asia and Africa such as national sovereignty, racial discrimination and colonialism.

4- Assessing the status of the states of Asia and Africa and their people in the contemporary world as well assessing the role that they can play in world peace and international cooperation. In line with these objectives, the Conference discussed economic and cultural cooperation, human rights and the right to self determination, the causes of the dependent nations and international law. These topics were discussed at three committees: the Political Committee, the Economic Committee and the Cultural Committee.

The delegations of Turkey, Thailand and the Philippines tried to obstruct the work of the conference by pushing it into pointless discussions on ideological differences in implementation of instructions from western states in a bid to abort the conference.

However, the stand adopted by most of the countries participating in the conference aborted the scheme to plunge the conference into controversial issues and affirmed the necessity of focusing on boosting peaceful cooperation between the states of Asia and Africa regardless of the differences in their social, economic and political regimes.

The Conference declared its absolute support for the policy of peaceful coexistence, regarding the dependent countries. It declared that it considers colonialism a crime that must be eliminated and that the subjugation, slavery and exploitation of peoples by forefingers are an assault on human rights and run counter to the UN Charter.

The Conference also declared its solidarity with the peoples' struggle for freedom and demanded the colonialist countries to grant these peoples their independence.

The final statement of the Conference emphasized the need for cooperation and preservation of world peace, respect for human rights and the UN Charter goals and principles and respect for the sovereignty and independence of all states and for the principle of equality of all races and nations – big or small - rejection of interference and aggression on other states and recognition of the right of all states to defense , individually or collectively, in accordance with the UN Charter as well as abstention from using collective defense agreements for the achievement of the interests of the super powers and putting pressure on other countries. The Conference also called for the settlement of international problems by peaceful means and respect for justice and international commitments.

The Conference called on all the states that possess atomic weapons to curb atomic armament, abstain from conducting atomic tests and start talks aimed at preventing the production or use of atomic weapons.

The Conference also affirmed its condemnation of the policy of racial discrimination and the attempts by colonialist countries to eliminate the national cultures of the peoples of Asia and Africa. It also expressed support for the rights of the Arab Palestinian peoples, the stance of Indonesia on western religions, and the stance of Yemen vis-à-vis Aden and the protectorates south of the Arabian Peninsula. The Conference demanded France to immediately grant Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia independence and also demanded the Security Council to support the UN membership application of a number of states in Asia and Africa.

The Bandung Conference played an important role in boosting cooperation among the countries of Asia and Africa and in strengthening the national liberation movement struggle of the oppressed people with the aim of boosting peace and security. In fact, the Bandung Conference represents the unity of the states of Asia and Africa in their struggle for independence guided by the

"Bandung Spirit". It affirmed the possibility of cooperation among countries with different economic and political regimes and asserted the growing role of the Asian and African states in international issues.

The Bandung Conference had a deep impact on the development of international relations towards the affirmation of the principle of peaceful coexistence as a good and practical basis for the development of international cooperation.

The abovementioned goes to prove the important and effective role of the principles and objectives of the Bandung Conference and its positive impact on the struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples. In 1955, the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization emerged as an embodiment of its principles and objectives. It rallied the peoples of Africa and Asia in support of the non-aligned movement as a continuation of the Bandung Conference.

The current situation and grave menaces facing the Afro-Asian peoples, and indeed the entire world as a result of the American unipolar order led by the neo-conservatives and their plans to establish an empire to dominate the world through launching barbaric wars in different parts, including Afghanistan and Iraq, and its threats to Syria, North Korea and Iran, call for the coordination of efforts and action by all the nationalist and progressive forces to confront these dangers, liberate the world of its hegemony and arrogance and help the marginalized, especially in Africa and Asia.

The world's 850 million poor, of whom 70% are women, are appealing to the world conscience to save them from their plight as a result of the policies pursued by a handful of big capitalist centers, and to support them in their honorable struggle which has started to yield its fruit as manifest in the people's struggle against the American hegemonistic schemes.

AAPSO Prospects and Functions:

AAPSO must be up to its responsibility, as it has always

proved, in unifying the struggles of the people of Africa and Asia to work to:

1) Expel the American occupation forces from Iraq, stop the massacre and displacement of millions, the plunder of the oil wealth and its division according to ethnic sectarian lines, and the construction of military bases that insure their presence for long years to come;

2) Support the Palestinian people in their struggle against the crimes committed by the occupation authorities and their expansionist schemes, and solve the Palestinian issue on the basis of the international resolutions that guarantee the withdrawal of all the Israeli occupation forces, the dismantling of settlements and the racist wall, as well as instituting the Palestinian people's right to self -determination and the establishment of their national independent state, with Jerusalem as its capital;

3) Prevent the division of Lebanon, the establishment of military bases and prisons on its soil, weakening and isolating Syria as a prelude to undermine its resistant role, the establishment of military bases in the Gulf region, bringing Egypt's rulers and people to their knees, and making Israel the biggest economic and military power and the guardian of US interests in the region;

4) Support peaceful settlements that guarantee the independence and sovereignty of the people of Africa and Asia and their peoples benefit from their wealth, as well as the establishment of democratic regimes that insure the comfort and progress of their people away from US hegemony and the conditionality of its financial and commercial institutions;

5) Strengthen and promote the role of the organizations that AAPSO was instrumental in their establishment such as the Arab Social Forum to serve as one of the main tools of strengthening ties; and insure coordination and cooperation among the forces opposed to the ferocious neo-liberal globalization and supportive of the establishment of an alternative humane globalization and

the application of the motto "Another world is possible";

6) Protect the health, social and educational gains and insurances for which the peoples have long struggled as well as abstain from their privatization and withdrawal;

7) Exert the necessary efforts with the forces of peace to curb military expenditure which reached in 2005 about 1118 billion dollars and which represents 2.5% of the world GDP. The US expenditure thereof represents 48% while the Arab world ranks first in arms imports which reached 60 billion dollars in 1999;

8) Earnestly work for the adoption of an international law that governs relations between nations and peoples on a clear basis and according to across-the-board fixed criteria, while military supremacy should not be left to direct international relations as the case is up to the present. There is a need for an international law that stops the big strong powers from exploiting their influences in encroaching on the interests of the small nations and peoples;

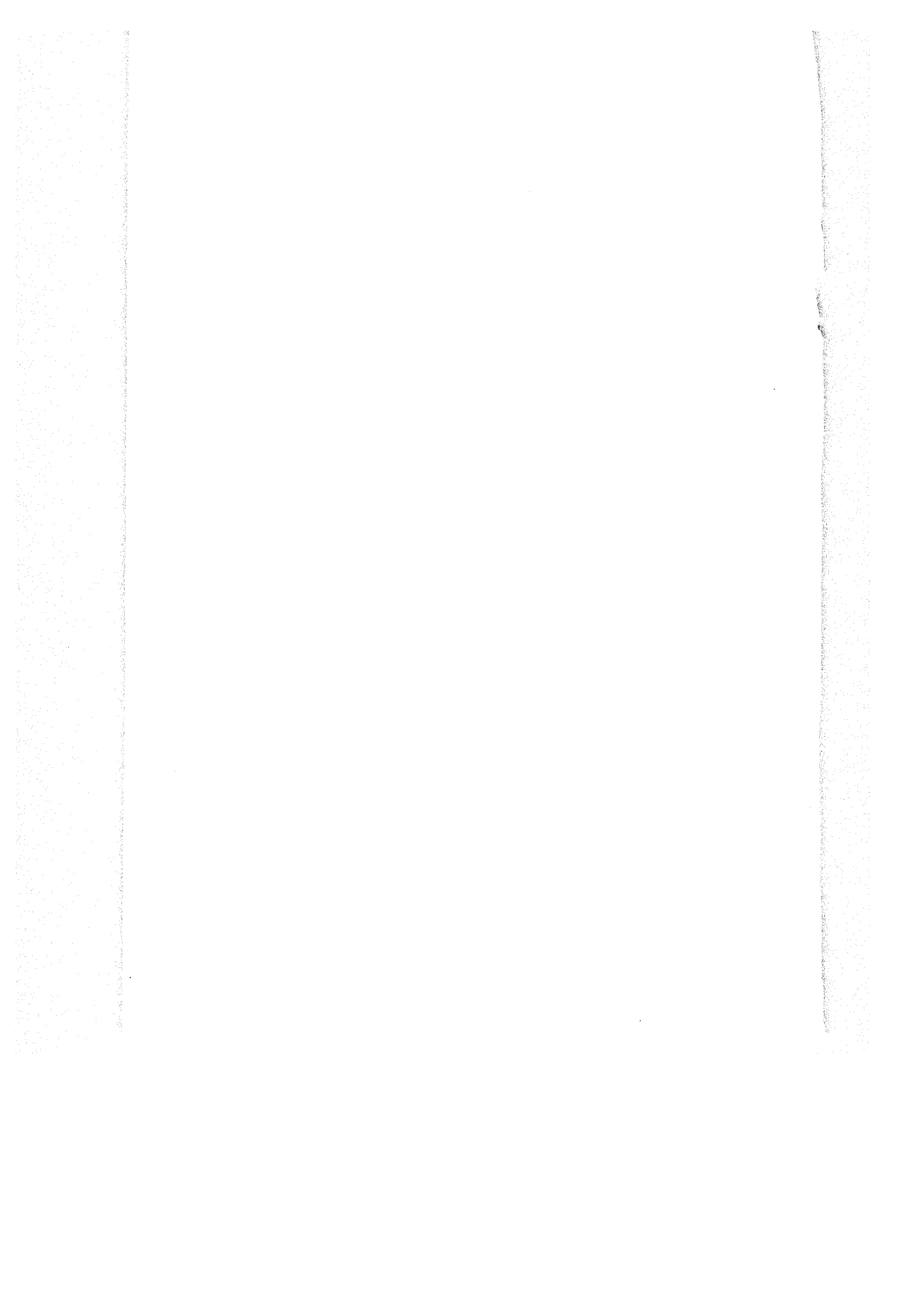
9) Boost democratic practices, public freedoms and human rights; curb the authoritarian regimes that rely on their despotic systems to dominate the fates of peoples while failing to show the least respect for the rule of law; and liberate peoples from despotism;

10) Confront the environmental challenges and the dangers arising from Israel's possession of atomic weapons and refusal to allow supervision by international committees; and work to insure the protection of the people of Asia and Africa by preventing multinationals from transferring their dirty industries to these countries. The Bubal city disaster in India is still fresh in memory;

11) Work to safeguard women's political, economic and social rights; fight all forms of discrimination, exploitation, oppression and violence which women are facing in Africa and Asia; put an end to all forms of discrimination against women and enable them to reach positions of power and decision making.

Chapter V

Publications



AFRO-ASIAN PUBLICATIONS SERIES

Since the foundation of AAPSO, it had issued more than 200 hundred books. These books discussed the Afro-Asian and Arab issues, in addition to issues of Peace, Development, Human Rights, Democracy, Environment, and else. Also, there are books which include its constitutional and regional meetings. The titles and documentations number of these books are as follow.

- Imperialist Rule in South Africa, Cairo, 1961. (No.1)
- The past and present Lesotho, Cairo, 1961. (No.2)
- The Algerian Revolution, Cairo, (1st November 1954 - 31st December 1961). (No.3)
- Economic Problems and African Unity, Cairo, 1961. (No.4)
- Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Movement: Principles, Structure, Friendly Organisations, Cairo, 1962. (No.5)
- The First Afro-Asian Women's Conference, Cairo, 14-23 January 1961. Reports, Messages, Speeches, Resolutions, 1961. (No.6)
- Statements And Appeals - Issued By The Permanent Secretariat Of AAPSO from 1958-1960, 1961. (No.7)
- Statements and Appeals - Issued by the Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO from 1961-1962, 1963. (No.8)
- Statements and Appeals - Issued by the Permanent

Secretariat of AAPSO in 1963. (No.9)
- Statements and Appeals - Issued by the Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO in 1964. (No.10)
- The Third Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference, Moshi, Tanganyika. February 4-11, 1963. (No.11)
- Zimbabwe (Southern Rhodesia), Cairo, 1964. (No.12)
- Afro-Asian Trade Unions and the Promotion of Labour and working conditions, Cairo, 1965. (No.13)
- The Winneba Conference, Ghana, May 1965, IVth Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Conference, Winneba, Ghana, May 9-15, 1965. (No.14)
- Statements and Appeals - Issued by the Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO in 1965. (No.15)
- The Problem of Oil in Iraq, Cairo, 1966. (No.15)
- Statements and Appeals - Issued by the Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO in 1966. (No.16)
- The 50th Anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution. (supplement), 1967. (No.17)
- For a pecaeful solution to the Vietnam issue, 1967. (No.18)
- Afro-Asian solidarity and Arab causes, 1967. (No.19)
- Israel and the Zionist penetration in Africa, 1967. (No.20)
- The Arab Israeli Conflict, 1967. (No.21)
- Zionist Colonialism in Palestine, 1967. (No.22)
- Israel, The Tool Of Western Imperialism, 30 March - 6th April 1965. (No.23)
- Documents of the VIIIth Meeting of AAPSO Council. Nicosia, 13-17 Feb. 1967. (No.24)
- Israeli Imperialist Conspiracy, 1967. (No.25)
- AAPSO Extraordinary Conference in Support of the Arab Peoples in Their Struggle Against Imperialism and Israel, Cairo, 1-3 July 1967. (No.26)
- AAPSO Extraordinary Conference in Support of the Arab Peoples in Their Struggle Against Imperialism and Israel.

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- AAPSO Extraordinary Conference in Support of the People of Vietnam, Cairo, 7-9 September, 1968. (No.28)
- Opinions and Stands, Shakeeb Anis Gabr. (No.29)
- Message from Vietnam, 1967. (No.30)
- A fighter from Vietnam; the life story of Van tri Cani, 1969. (No.30)
- National Liberation Wars in the Portuguese Colonies, 1970. (No.31)
- This is Israel! The savagery of a new Nazi Israel in the Arab land. (No.31)
- International Conference in Support of the Peoples of Portuguese Colonies and Southern Africa. Khartoum. 18-20 January, 1969 (Agenda, Resolutions, Participants). (No.32)
- Documents in support of the Laotian Peoples' struggle against the American Imperialist Aggression, Cairo, 19-21 May 1970. (No.33)
- Zimbabwe: history of a struggle. (No.34)
- Laos: The U.S. Aggression and the liberation struggle of the Laotian people, 1970. (No.35)
- Twelve years of Afro-Asian solidarity, 1970. (No.36)
- Documents of the IXth Council session of the AAPSO, Tripoli, Libya, 9-11 November 1970. (No.37)
- Namibia Revolution, 1970, (No. 1971. (No.38)
- Gamal Abdel Nasser: In Memoriam, Vol. 1, 1971. (No.39)
- Address of Jaale, and Major General Mohamed Siad Barre, Mogadishu, 17-19 December 1971. (No.40)
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- The 5th Conference of the AAPSO, Cairo, 10-13 January 1972. (No.44)
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- Documents of the Second Presidium Meeting of the AAPSO, Nicosia-Cyprus, 15-16 May 1975. (No.68)
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- GAAT and the Developing Countries, 1995. (No.169)
- Emergency Solidarity Conference: The Aggression Against Lebanon, Palestine and Forging a New Middle East, Cairo-ARE, 22 April 1996. (No.170)
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- Beijing What is After? Stop Recommendations ... Let's Work, Beijing-China, 7 May 1997. (No.172)
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- Documents of Havana Conference of the South Countries G-77, 10-14 April 2000. (No.179)
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